

Mauroy defends French role

VIENNA (AP) — French Premier Pierre Mauroy, in an interview published Tuesday, defended the presence of his country's troops in Lebanon and suggested his government would be pleased to withdraw them in favour of U.N. multinational force. Mr. Mauroy, interviewed in Paris by the Tabloid Kurier, said: "France is not playing one community against the other in Lebanon." Mr. Mauroy, who arrives Wednesday for a three-day visit, added: "Our only purpose consists in making possible the existence of an independent, united... Lebanon. In order to prevent massacres and to protect the civilian population a (quick) intervention was so necessary that it became impossible to send United Nations forces. But France appeals constantly to the international community to assume their responsibilities."

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U.N. postpones Gulf war mission

UNITED NATIONS (R) — A planned visit to Iran and Iraq this week by a United Nations mission has been postponed after Iran ruled out any discussion of political issues related to the Gulf war, a U.N. spokesman said Tuesday. It was hoped the mission, led by Under-Secretary General Diego Cordovez, could be rescheduled, he added. The team's mandate was to update a previous U.N. report on allegations by both sides that civilian areas had been bombed, and to ascertain the positions of the two governments on issues related to the conflict. A letter from Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz made public Tuesday welcomed the intention of Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar to dispatch the Cordovez mission for both purposes.

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King congratulates Qatari leader

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein has sent a cable to the Emir of Qatar, Sheikh Khalifa bin Hamad Al Thani, congratulating him in the King's own name and on behalf of the Jordanian government and people on the occasion of the anniversary of the assumption of constitutional powers by the Qatari leader. In his cable King Hussein paid tribute to Qatar's achievements under its wise leadership.

Lower House meets today

AMMAN (Petra) — The Lower House of Parliament Wednesday holds a meeting, to be chaired by its speaker, Akef Al Fayed, during which it is expected to discuss last Saturday's burning of the Jordanian embassy in Tripoli, Libya.

Lawyers stage protest strike

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordanian lawyers Tuesday observed a one-hour protest strike in compliance with a decision, adopted in Tunisia last December by the Arab Lawyers Union. The strike, Jordanian Bar Association President Sulaiman Al Hadidi said, was a gesture by Arab lawyers in protest against detention and imprisonment of political activists in the Arab World.

Iraqi pipeline repaired

ANKARA (AP) — The joint oil pipeline which pumps Iraqi crude to a Turkish Mediterranean terminal resumed normal operation Tuesday after a two-day technical breakdown, the semi-official Anatolia News Agency reported. The dispatch quoted officials as saying that the breakdown was caused by high pressure which resulted in a rupture of the pipes and spilled 400 tons of crude oil. The 1,000-kilometre pipeline pumps 49 million tons of crude annually and it is Iraq's only outlet for its exports. Turkey built a 20-kilometre security zone along the pipeline after it was blown up by Syrian and Kurdish terrorists twice since it began operating in 1977.

Egyptian soldier killed in Sinai

TEL AVIV (R) — One Egyptian soldier was killed and another wounded Monday when a mine exploded near Sharm Al Sheikh at the southern tip of the Sinai peninsula, an Israeli official said Tuesday. The two were trying to dismantle the device when it exploded and were evacuated by soldiers of the Sinai Multinational Peacekeeping Force to a hospital in the Israeli port city of Eilat. One soldier, a Lieutenant, died en route and the second trooper was in serious condition after surgery, the official said.

Soviets launch unmanned spacecraft

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Union Tuesday launched an unmanned spacecraft to link up with the Salyut-7 space station where three cosmonauts have been in orbit for 12 days, TASS News Agency reported.

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Arens reports 'major operation' deep in Lebanon Israeli planes raid Bhamdoun, army moves nearer to Beirut

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Israeli planes Tuesday bombed militia positions around the Lebanese mountain town of Bhamdoun as an armoured Israeli column advanced to 20 kilometres from Beirut.

Israeli planes bombed targets in Bhamdoun within sight of Beirut Tuesday morning. They were seen bombing villages on a ridge east of the capital in an area around Bhamdoun, which Israeli planes also hit on Sunday.

Ten Israeli planes took part in the attack, according to radio reports. The planes hit targets near Mansouriyeh, south of Bhamdoun, and close to 'Ain Al Jideh on the Beirut-Damascus highway, an Israeli military communiqué said, in Tel Aviv.

On Sunday, Israeli planes struck at targets in the same area and in Damour, the coastal town which was an important Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) centre before Israel's invasion of Lebanon in June 1982.

The targets hit Tuesday belonged to commando groups led by Abu Musa and Ahmad Jibril, key figures in the Syrian-backed revolt against PLO Chairman Yasser

Arafat. Reuters quoted Israeli sources as saying. The right-wing "Voice of Lebanon" radio station said that in four raids the Israelis had hit positions in Bkheshtay, Mansouriyeh and 'Ain Al Jideh, all villages about three or four kilometres south or west of Bhamdoun.

It said 10 planes were attacking while others circled the area to protect them. Anti-aircraft guns opened up but there were no reports of a hit.

Meanwhile, a column of 36 Israeli tanks, armoured personnel carriers and trucks took up positions for more than six hours north of their lines along the Awali River.

Reuters quoted eyewitnesses as saying the troops had appeared to be establishing fixed positions, but a spokesman at Israeli military headquarters in southern Lebanon said their presence there was "temporary" until the situation became clear.

The Israelis were seen manning positions at the southern entrance of the town of Damour, 20 kilometres south of Beirut, the farthest north they have been sighted since they withdrew to the Awali River last September.

The PSP "Voice of the Mountain" said about 40 vehicles crossed Israeli lines at the Awali River soon after dark Monday and moved up to positions on the roads leading inland from the main coastal highway.

Israeli Defence Minister Moshe Arens disclosed that Israeli forces were carrying out a "major operation" north of the Awali line in South Lebanon, Israeli army radio said.

It quoted him as telling a closed door meeting of ruling Likud politicians that army patrols had probed 12 kilometres north of the "green line" during the past 24 hours in "search of Palestinian" commandos.

Mr. Arens described the operation as the highest patrol since Israeli forces in Lebanon pulled out of the Shouf mountains and redeployed behind the Awali River near Sidon last year.

He gave no indication how many men and vehicles took part. Lebanese radio reports have spoken of as many as 70 armoured



Jordanian Ambassador to Libya Sami Al Shamailah (second from left), who returned to Amman Tuesday in response to an urgent summons by the government, talks to Afifah A. Kaloti of the Jordan Times and Majid Asfour of Al Ra'i upon his arrival (photo by Youssef Al 'Allan)

Ambassador to Libya returns

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordanian ambassador to Libya, Sami Al Shamailah, arrived here Tuesday in response to an urgent summons from the government following last Saturday's burning of the Jordanian embassy in Tripoli.

Mr. Shamailah was accompanied by the embassy's adviser, Faisal Khorshid, and their families. They were received at the airport by Foreign Ministry Ambassador Mohammad Ali Khurama and senior officials.

In a statement to the Upper House of Parliament

Monday, Prime Minister Ahmad 'Obeidat condemned the attack on the embassy and said the Jordanian government holds the Libyan government responsible for the "premeditated, criminal" incident.

Mr. 'Obeidat also said that the government was re-evaluating relations with Libya in light of the attack, and would decide on proper action after receiving a full report from Ambassador Shamailah on the incident.

Jordanians condemn Tripoli attack

AMMAN (Petra) — Representatives of various public sectors in Jordan, trade unions, mayors, societies and clubs Tuesday condemned last Saturday's attack against the Jordanian embassy in Tripoli, Libya, and expressed their support of the government's steps to counter such irresponsible acts and pledged to rally behind the leadership of His Majesty King Hussein.

Bar Association President Sulaiman Al Hadidi described the attack and burning of the embassy as a "violation of the simplest principles of international relations and a breach of the simplest brotherly relations between Arab countries."

Dr. Hassan Khreis, president of the Jordanian Medical Association, denounced the attack, describing it as a "strange behaviour which contravenes international practices and relations."

Trade Union leaders also denounced the attack and described it as a "moral deterioration and denial of the simplest international relations, particularly when such an aggression was committed by a sister Arab country."

The aggression, Khalil Abu Khurma, secretary-general of the General Federation of Jordanian Trade Unions, added, tops a "series of criminal aggressions perpetrated by the Libyan regime against our Arab Nation in more than one Arab country."

Mr. Abu Khurma called on the Arab World to adopt a unified stand in the face of those who committed the criminal incident. The former mayor of Hebron, Fadd Al Qawsawi, said that "the perpetrators of the criminal aggression against our embassy are

void of morals, since the embassy was set up to serve the citizens, and to strengthen relations between Arab countries."

The mayors of Irbid, Aqaba and Karak also denounced the attack, which they said, "is completely inconsistent with our habits and traditions as Arabs and Muslims."

Chairman of the Executive Board of the General Union of Jordanian Voluntary Societies denounced the attack and called on the Arab World and the international community to condemn it, which he said, "violated international and human values."

Sheikh Abdul Hamid Al Sayeh and Bishop Saleem Al Sayeh condemned the attack and called on all Arabs to rally their forces "to face the biggest Zionist enemy instead of attacking friends and embassies."

Chinese diplomat in Amman denies

Peking-Tehran '£1 billion arms deal'

By Lami K. Andoui
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A spokesman for the Chinese embassy in Amman Tuesday described as "groundless" and "total fabrication" a British newspaper report that China has signed a deal with Iran to supply arms worth £1 billion to aid Tehran in its war against Iraq.

In a statement to the Jordan Times Yang Shanzhun, first secretary of the embassy of the People's Republic of China, said: "The report in the British Daily Mail that China has signed a secret £1 billion arms deal is groundless and a total fabrication of facts."

Mr. Shanzhun, who is also the press attaché, accused Israel of generating such reports "which aim at damaging the long-standing Chinese-Arab friendship."

The Daily Mail Tuesday reported that "China has signed a two-year deal" with Iran to supply heavy weapons worth £1 billion, including a large supply of 107-millimetre shells, battle tanks and combat planes. The conservative British newspaper concluded that "the deal could enable Iran to deliver a final knockout blow in the war with Iraq."

But Mr. Shanzhun strongly denied the report and reiterated China's "neutral stand" on the

41-month-old Iran-Iraq war. "China has always adopted a clear and consistent stand on the Iran-Iraq war," he said.

Mr. Shanzhun added: "We believe that differences between Iran and Iraq should be settled through peaceful means." He stressed that China would like to see a quick end to the Gulf war.

"It is in the interests of both Iran and Iraq that the war should come to an end as soon as possible," he said.

Terminating the war between Iran and Iraq is very important for achieving peace and stability in the Middle East, the Chinese diplomat added.

Iraq, saying Iran plans offensive, warns of major retaliatory strikes

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Iraq said Tuesday a major Iranian Gulf war offensive was imminent and warned Tehran that Iraqi forces would strike at any targets, even deep inside Iran.

A high command spokesman said on Baghdad Television that massive troop buildups in Iranian villages and towns would be considered military targets "which would be confronted with deserved measures."

"All the information we have and the available evidence indicates that the Iranian offensive aims at destroying and occupying our villages and towns," he said.

The spokesman did not indicate where the offensive might be launched. But the Baath Party newspaper Al Thawra said Tuesday Iran was preparing for a major offensive on the southern front of the 41-month-old conflict.

"We will carry out our activities, which go parallel with the aggressors' intentions and with the damage that might fall on our villages and towns, even if we are

compelled to exercise these activities against targets deep inside Iran..." the spokesman said.

The Al Thawra editorial hinted clearly that Iraq might use its powerful missile arsenal, which diplomats in Baghdad said included Soviet-made SS-12 missiles as well as Scud-B and Frog rockets.

"We will use sophisticated weapons, unused before, to crush their new aggression and change the battle ground to a mass graveyard for their troops," the daily said.

An Iraqi moratorium on shelling of Iranian residential areas expired Tuesday afternoon. In announcing the seven-day moratorium, Iraq last Tuesday called for a similar pledge by Iran.

Iran on Saturday gave such a pledge, but a war communique broadcast over Baghdad Radio on Monday said Iranians shelled the border township of Kenaru. The communique said Iraqi helicopter gunships continued to make effective hits on Iranian troop concentrations in the central sector.

The communique also said its forces captured an Iranian patrol that tried to approach Iraqi positions in the southern sector.

In Washington, Pentagon officials would not confirm a report that an American naval task force has been moved to the Gulf of Oman to protect the Strait of Hormuz. (See story on page 2).

In response to the report by the London Daily Telegraph, Navy Commander Jeff Renk said: "Standard practice is we don't discuss for security reasons the movement of our ships."

Life goes on as usual in Beirut, page 2

Turkish festival (see page 8)

Bandar optimistic after talks on Lebanon with Syrian leaders

DAMASCUS (Agencies) — Saudi mediator Prince Bandar bin Sultan bin Abdul Aziz said after three hours of talks Tuesday with Syrian Foreign Minister Abdul Halim Khaddam he was optimistic about reaching an agreement on Lebanon.

Prince Bandar, who is Saudi Arabia's ambassador to Washington, told reporters "the meeting was good," adding "we are optimistic."

"We are now trying our best to stop Lebanese bloodshed and have found a great deal of co-operation from the Syrian brothers," he said.

Asked about a reported new plan for Lebanon, he said: "There is no new plan now. We are discussing a previously presented one." He did not elaborate.

Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal said after discussions with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad here at the weekend that Syria had rejected an eight-point proposal, but that new proposals had been agreed and would be sent to Lebanon's President Amin Gemayel for his consideration.

Prince Bandar arrived in Damascus Monday along with Saudi Crown Prince Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz, who is reputed to be the best mediator in inter-Arab conflicts. The Saudi leaders conferred with President Assad, and

Prince Abdallah left for London Tuesday leaving Prince Bandar to carry on the mediation attempts.

Saudi-Lebanese businessman mediator Rafiq Hariri, who arrived from Beirut late Monday, attended Prince Bandar's meeting with Foreign Minister Khaddam Tuesday.

Syria and its allies in the Lebanese opposition last week rejected the eight-point package which would have left Mr. Gemayel in power and which stipulated simultaneous Syrian and Israeli troop withdrawals from Lebanon.

The opposition, led by the mainly Druze Progressive Socialist Party and Shi'ite militias, has won major military victories against the Lebanese army this month and is now calling on Mr. Gemayel to step down.

PSP leader Walid Junblatt and Shi'ite Muslim "Amal" commander Nabih Berri wound up co-ordination talks with Syrian political and military leaders before heading back to Lebanon Monday. While in Damascus, Mr. Berri demanded Mr. Gemayel's resignation, adding, "this is an irrevocable demand."

While Mr. Junblatt issued a similar statement, the demand by Mr. Berri indicated a further hardening of the opposition line. Previously, Mr. Berri had only demanded that Mr. Gemayel be censured by shortening his six-year

term to two years ending next September.

Reuters quoted informed sources in Beirut as saying Syria's sole public condition for backing a settlement in Lebanon was outright cancellation of last May's troop withdrawal agreement between Lebanon and Israel.

The sources added that Saudi Arabia had proposed a new four-point initiative involving: — Appointment of a new prime minister;

— Public abrogation of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement by Mr. Gemayel and the prime minister-designate;

— Resumption of a national reconciliation conference at Geneva to discuss political reforms, and

— Subsequent formation of a cabinet by the new prime minister.

The sources said two Sunni Muslim politicians were regarded as favourites to replace Prime Minister Shafiq Al Wazzan, who resigned on Feb. 5 with his cabinet. They were former premiers Rachid Karami and Takiyeddine Al Solh, according to Reuters.

Lebanon's state radio said Mr. Gemayel ordered Foreign Minister Elie Salem to give up his trip to Washington and return to Beirut.

Mr. Salem, who left Beirut on Sunday bound for meetings with the U.S. administration, returned Monday afternoon, the radio said.

GCC concludes defence strategy talks

DOHA (R) — Defence ministers of the six-member Gulf Cooperation Council Tuesday ended two days of talks on a joint strategy to defend their Gulf region against external threats.

The six ministers, from Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates, Oman and Qatar, made no statement at the end of their talks, held amid tight security in a Doha hotel.

The meeting, though scheduled, followed a major flare-up in fighting in the Iran-Iraq war, watched with concern by the six GCC

states which back Iraq in the 41-month-old conflict.

The council's secretary-general, Abdullah Bishara, told reporters after the closing session that the ministers discussed general aspects of defence co-operation and reviewed the security situation in the region.

But he said they endorsed no defence strategy during their three lengthy closed sessions of talks, "because this is a long subject which needs time to implement."

Mr. Bishara said the main concern of the council members was

to achieve self-reliance in the military and other fields, adding: "Nobody can protect the region as efficiently as its own nationals."

"Let there be no doubt that the countries of the region will not ask anyone to defend them," he said.

The United States, concerned over Iran's repeated threats to close the strategic Strait of Hormuz, has refused so far to rule out intervention if the strait was actually closed.

U.S. carrier operating in North Arabian Sea; British navy practising escort duties, page 2

Israel jails 3 Palestinians for injuring settler

TEL AVIV (AP) — An Israeli military court in the occupied West Bank town of Hebron has sentenced three Palestinians to up to 12 years in jail for allegedly stabbing a Jewish settler, the military command said.

The command said the three, sentenced on Sunday, were also convicted of membership in the Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO) and of allegedly planning mass attack against Jews in Hebron in June 1983. It did not

specify what kind of attack was planned.

Palestinian sources identified the three as Mustafa Amiri and Ayed Jamjou, who each got 12 years, and Mohammad Takruri, who was sentenced to seven and a half years. They did not know their hometowns.

The settler, Zvi Segal, of a Jewish settlement near Hebron, was stabbed in the stomach more than two years ago in a clash with Palestinians in Hebron's market. The

settler was armed with a machine gun.

In another incident, an explosive device was thrown Tuesday at an Israeli army patrol in the Jabaliyeh refugee camp in the occupied city of Gaza, causing no casualties, military sources said.

They added that a grenade was hurled at a parked Israeli car in Medina Square at the heart of the Palestinian city, smashing its windows but causing no injuries.

U.S. Marines receive final withdrawal order

BEIRUT (R) — U.S. Marines in Beirut have received final orders to withdraw to ships offshore, a U.S. spokesman said Tuesday.

The spokesman, Colonel Ed McDonald, said: "We are in receipt of orders to re-embark aboard ship."

He declined to say exactly when the orders were received or in give details of the withdrawal programme.

The Marines have been moving out what they call non-essential men and equipment for several days since President Reagan announced a decision in principle to pull them out of Beirut.

Col. McDonald said there were still some 1,300 Marines on shore and refused to say when they would all be gone.

"Suffice it to say that re-embarkation will take place over

the next few days," he said.

He added that about 1,000 Marines would remain in guard buildings used by American diplomats.

Mr. Reagan decided to withdraw the Marines after anti-government militias seized control of west Beirut two weeks ago and the government of President Amin Gemayel appeared close to collapse.

The militias have since advanced south of Beirut and now confront the Marine base at Beirut Airport on three sides. Italy and Britain have already pulled out the troops they sent to Beirut between September 1982 and February 1983 as part of a Multinational Force designed to protect civilians and help the Lebanese government extend its authority. Some 1,250 French troops are staying on indefinitely.

Col. McDonald said he did not know who would take over the base, a network of buildings and bunkers protected by earth ramparts, concrete blocks and barbed wire.

When the Italian force of 1,385 left Monday, gunmen of the Shiite militia Amal moved into their headquarters and military positions. The U.S. spokesman said the Marines would take their equipment with them, including tanks. "They'll take what they came with," he said.

In mid-morning the scene at the Marine landing point on the Mediterranean beach near the airport was quiet and there were no ships close to the shore.



The Italian contingent of the Multinational Force is being evacuated from the Lebanese capital, Beirut, Monday (AP wirephoto)

Life goes on in Iraqi frontline city

BASRA, Iraq (AP) — Along the waterway that leads to the Gulf, restaurants are filled at night with people chatting and watching the occasional flash of artillery explosions from the war front just 17 kilometres away.

The echoing thud of the explosions does not still the local music blaring from radios in cafes or the Western disco beat emanating from hotels and Basra's more than 20 nightclubs.

Sandbag shelters have been built along the Shatt Al Arab waterway, but after 41 months of fighting between Iraq and Iran, people do not run for them at the sound of artillery.

Hospitals, schools and government buildings are also surrounded by sandbags, but residents of Iraq's second largest city say that life here is "normal."

An American-trained hotel executive who asked not to be identified said the flow of tourists had not stopped despite the war and the government's decision to allow hotel to accept only officially exchanged currency from foreigners.

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U.S. carrier operating in northern Arabian Sea

TOKYO (R) — An American Navy battleship is operating in the northern Arabian Sea, a spokesman for the U.S. Seventh Fleet said here Tuesday.

"We can confirm that the Midway battleship is operating in the northern Arabian Sea," said the spokesman, commander James Grow.

"However, as a matter of policy we do not discuss specifics of naval operations."

During the morning Asian Foreign Exchange and gold markets reacted to unconfirmed reports suggesting that Iran might attempt to close the Strait of Hormuz, through which much of the world's oil passes on its way from the Gulf.

According to the reports, the U.S. Navy was sending a task force to the area to keep the strait open.

The Arabian Sea in which the Midway is operating stretches from Bombay to Muscat and Oman.

The conventionally-powered 51,000-ton carrier, which does not carry the latest F-14 Tomcat fighter, is based at Yokosuka, Tokyo Bay.

It normally operates with a cruiser and several smaller ships, including destroyers and frigates, and frequently one or more submarines designed to protect the group from enemy submarines.

In Bahrain shipping sources contacted by Reuters said shipping appeared moving normally through Gulf waterways Tuesday.

They said they had not heard of any disruption to shipping in the Gulf and therefore it was unlikely that any had occurred.

The BBC said British warships "have been making trial runs to see if they could shepherd convoys of tankers through the Strait of Hormuz."

If the Strait of Hormuz were closed, "it would cause chaos to the economies of dozens of nations," the BBC said.

It described the Iranian threat as an attempt to persuade other countries to put pressure on Iraq in the Iran-Iraq war, which started in September 1980. Fighting has intensified in the past few days.

The BBC said Saudi Arabia takes the Iranian threat so seriously that "it has been hiring super-tankers, filling them up and sending them to secret destinations all over the world to await developments. If oil supplies are disrupted, they can satisfy their regular customers for about three weeks from the floating stockpile."

The official Middle East News Agency (MENA) reported Monday that Sudan had returned to Ethiopia five of its officers who crossed into Sudanese territory by mistake.

The agency quoted Sudanese Foreign Affairs Minister Mohammed al-Murghani Vubarak as saying the handover had taken place.

Mr. Vubarak said Sudan had also decided to stop its war of words with Ethiopia pending his meeting with Ethiopian Foreign Minister Colonel Goshu Wolde to discuss recent tension between the two countries, MENA reported.

Relations between the two countries have been strained following Sudanese accusations, denied by Addis Ababa, that Ethiopia was behind a recent insurgency in southern Sudan.

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Saudi prince seen as influential mediator

BAHRAIN (R) — Saudi Arabian Crown Prince Abdullah Ibn Abdul Aziz, who starts a three-day visit to Britain Wednesday, is regarded as one of the most influential mediators in the troubled politics of the Arab World.

Although described by informed Saudi sources as a courtesy call, the visit is regarded in Britain as the most important by a member of the Saudi royal family since the late King Khalid paid a state visit in 1981.

Prince Abdullah's British visit, which immediately follows two days of talks in Damascus on Lebanon and other Arab issues, is said by both sides to reflect strong bilateral relations.

Informed sources in the two countries say Prince Abdullah's talks with Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe and Defence Secretary Michael Heseltine will cover the Gulf war, the Lebanese crisis and the Arab-Israeli dispute.

Sir Geoffrey and Mr. Heseltine said separate visits to Saudi Arabia last month.

No official reasons were given for the Syrian visit of the crown prince, also first deputy prime minister and head of the National Guard, but Saudi Arabia has been playing a major role in trying to mediate a ceasefire in Lebanon.

Syria, which has an estimated 40,000 troops in Lebanon and backs Lebanese opposition groups, is seen as holding the key to a settlement of the Lebanese crisis.

Seen as less pro-Western than many in the Saudi royal family, Prince Abdullah's personal friendships in the Arab World make him an influential mediator, Middle East diplomats say.

A long-time critic of U.S. policy in the Middle East, the 60-year-old crown prince nevertheless surprised many with his call late last month for the U.S. to pull out its troops from Lebanon.

"A withdrawal of all the invading forces, Israeli and American troops as well, will have to be carried out as soon as possible. There is not the least doubt that Syrian forces will pull out after that," he said.

Just over a week later on Feb. 7, President Reagan announced the U.S. contingent of the four-nation Multinational Force in Beirut would be "redeployed" on to American ships off Lebanon.

A U.S. spokesman in Beirut said Tuesday final orders to withdraw the 1,300 Marines still on shore had been received.

Explaining his attitude to relations with the big powers, Prince Abdullah said in an interview in March last year: "I always say that I honour relations with anyone wishing to deal with my country on an equal basis."

"All the big powers will not give us more than what they benefit from us. That is a fact."

Kaya Ertem, Defence Minister Zeki Yavuzturk, Foreign Minister Yahya Halefoglu and a number of Turkish businessmen.

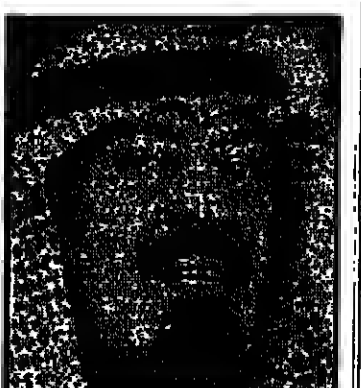
Turkish officials in Riyadh said King Fahd and Gen. Evren would have official talks Wednesday and were expected to discuss the Iran-Iraq war, Lebanon, the Palestinian issue, Afghanistan and Cyprus.

Kamil Onur, commercial councillor at the Turkish embassy, said he hoped the visit would give bilateral economic relations "a shot in the arm."

Political sources in Turkey said the visit had more economic than political importance.

Gen. Evren will visit Jubail Industrial City on the eastern coast on Thursday. On Friday he will hold a news conference and visit Vecca and on Saturday, the last day of his visit, will go to the holy city of Medina.

The Turkish delegation includes Deputy Prime Minister



Prince Abdullah

Although unsuccessful so far in his attempts to achieve rapprochement between Syria and Iraq, which is fighting Syria's ally Iran in a 41-month-old war, Prince Abdullah is widely credited with preventing a border war between Jordan and Syria late in 1980.

Informed sources in both Saudi Arabia and Britain said the crown prince, who will lunch with Queen Elizabeth on Friday, has given no indication he wants to discuss "military issues" in London. But he will be shown a range of military equipment and weapons on the second day of his visit.

Saudi Arabia is a major trading partner of Britain, buying around \$1.5 billion of goods in 1983 and selling it close to \$900 million worth of oil in the same period.

Turkish president arrives in S. Arabia

RIYADH (R) — Turkish President Kenan Evren was greeted by King Fahd Tuesday on his arrival in Riyadh at the start of a five-day visit to discuss bilateral relations and Middle East developments.

The visit, the first by a Turkish president to Saudi Arabia in 15 years, underlined the growing relations between the two countries, Turkish diplomats said.

The Turkish delegation includes Deputy Prime Minister

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Shamir makes little headway with EC

BRUSSELS (R) — Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir has appealed to the European Community to give a fairer trade deal to Israel and warned that Spanish and Portuguese membership could further damage Israel's troubled economy.

But diplomats said that although the Community acknowledged the need for more balanced trade, it made no pledge to lower tariffs on Israeli farm produce and told Mr. Shamir Israel would receive the same consideration as other Mediterranean countries over Spanish and Portuguese entry.

Mr. Shamir told Community foreign ministers Monday that trade with the 10-nation bloc accounted for half of Israel's total commercial deficit last year.

The Community buys about 70

per cent of Israel's agricultural exports, a market that Israel fears could be adversely affected by Spanish and Portuguese fruit and vegetable produce.

Mr. Shamir said Israel did not oppose Spanish entry into the Community but insisted that Spain establish diplomatic relations with the Jewish state before its accession.

Otherwise, he said, the Community would be in the "bizarre and unacceptable" position of being unable to hold a dialogue with Israel when Spain held the rotating six-month presidency of the bloc.

Spanish Foreign Minister Fernando Morán, who was at Community headquarters at the same time as Mr. Shamir but did not meet him, said Madrid wanted better ties with Israel but would

also take into account Palestinian interests.

In one minor trade concession, the Community agreed to allow Israel to delay lifting its few remaining tariff barriers on Community goods, diplomats said.

Lebanon dominated earlier private meetings with the French and West German foreign ministers, Israeli officials said.

Mr. Shamir told them Israel would only withdraw its troops from southern Lebanon if there was another force there capable of preventing Palestinian commandos from striking at its northern border.

He said a security force to police southern Lebanon would have to be a real fighting force to prevent Lebanon from becoming once again a springboard for attacks against Israel.

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USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

EMERGENCIES

Ambulance 193, 75111
Fire 192, 21111, 37777
Police 192, 21111, 37777
Traffic police 39141
Electric Power Co. 36381-2
Municipal water service 71125-8
Queen Alia Int. Airport (0R) 53333

HOSPITALS

Husseini Medical Centre 81381-332
Khalidi Maternity, J. Amman 44281-4
Akhleh Maternity, J. Amman 42441
Jabal Amman Maternity 42362
Mishal, J. Amman 36140
Palestine, Shmeisani 664171-4
Shmeisani Hospital 669313
University Hospital 654545
Dar Al-Salam, J. Hussein 667158
Al-Mushtak Hospital 667227-9
The Islamic, Abdali 665292
Al-Ahli, Abdali 664164
Islamic, Al-Mohajir 4501400
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 75111
Army, Marja 91611

GENERAL

Jordan Television 73111
Radio Jordan 74111
Ministry of Tourism 42311
Hotel complaints 666412
Price complaints 661176
Telephone:
Information 12
Jordan and Middle East calls 13
Overseas calls 14
Cable or telegram 14
Repair services 11

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Yousef Hourani 25478

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in fils per kg.

Apple (Double Red) 350/300
Apple (Golden) 450/400
Apple (Starline) 450/400
Apple (Smith) 450/400
Apple (local) 220/180
Banana (Musa) 280/240
Beans 240/210
Cabbage 340/300
Carrot 150/120
Cauliflower (white) 70/40
Cauliflower (large) 220/170
Cucumber (small) 340/280
Dates 180/150
Eggplant (large) 110/90
Eggplant (small) 150/120
Figs 400/300

Garlic 320/240
Grapes (white) 700/600
Grapes (black) 700/600
Grapefruit 90/70
Guava 400/300
Lemon 120/90
Marrow (large) 170/140
Marrow (small) 140/110
Mellow 350/280
Okra 170/140
Onion (dry) 150/120
Onion (wet) 150/120
Oranges (Abu Shura) 250/180
Oranges (Shmeisani) 220/180
Peas 300/240
Pepper (sweet) 540/380
Pepper (hot green) 540/380
Potatoes 150/120

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION MAIN CHANNEL

17:30 Kur'an
17:40 Cartoons
18:05 Children's Programmes
18:30 Mickey Mouse Club
18:55 Sherlock Holmes
19:20 Programme Review
19:30 Programme on Agriculture
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Arabic Series
21:35 Local Programme
22:30 Varieties
23:11 News in Arabic

FOREIGN CHANNEL

18:00 French Programme
19:00 News in French
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 House Calls
21:00 Science International
21:10 Reilly — Eps. 8
22:00 News in English
22:15 Strike Force: Outcast

RADIO JORDAN

107.00 Light Music
107.30 News Desk
108:00 Morning Show
10:00 News Summary
10:05 Arabic Series
11:00 Pop Session
12:00 News Summary
12:05 Pop Session
13:00 News Summary
13:05 Pop Session
14:00 News Bulletin
14:10 Instrumentals
14:30 Oh! Mother
15:00 Concert Hour
16:00 News Summary
16:05 Instrumentals
16:30 Old Favorites
17:00 Jordan Weekly
17:30 Pop Session
18:00 News Summary
18:05 Over a Cup of Tea
18:30 Music
19:00 News Desk
19:30 Date with a Star
20:00 Evening Show
21:05 News Summary
21:05 Evening Show
22:00 News Summary
23:00 News Summary
24:00 News Headlines

WHAT'S GOING ON

Balance of payments surplus reverses trend

AMMAN (R) — Jordan's overall balance of payments showed a surplus of JD 1.48 million in the third quarter of last year, after deficits of JD 20.03 million in the second quarter and JD 14.53 million in the third quarter of 1982, provisional figures released Tuesday showed.

The current account balance of payments showed a third quarter deficit of JD 6.59 million after shortfalls of JD 67.00 million in the second quarter and JD 21.13 million in the third quarter of 1982, the Central Bank of Jordan's monthly bulletin showed.

Visible trade showed a deficit of JD 223.98 million compared with deficits of JD 215.23 million in the previous quarter and JD 190.37 million a year earlier.

Exports fell to 42.58 million from JD 65.88 million and JD 53.97 million respectively, while imports fell to JD 266.56 million from JD 281.11 million in the second quarter, and compared with JD 244.43 million in the third quarter of 1982, the figures showed.

The visible trade deficit was partly offset by an invisible trade surplus of JD 149.44 million in the third quarter, compared with surpluses of JD 97.03 million in the second quarter and JD 121.89 million in the third quarter of 1982.

Transfer payments, mostly aid from Arab governments, showed a surplus of JD 67.95 million, up from JD 51.20 million and JD 47.35 million respectively.

The capital account surplus was down to JD 5.11 million from JD 87.03 million in the second quarter and JD 35.66 million a year earlier.

The central government's budget surplus rose to JD 10.29 million in the second quarter of 1983 from JD 2.70 million in the first quarter and JD 27.61 million in the second quarter of 1982,

according to provisional figures.

The government's foreign borrowing rose to JD 12.01 million in the second quarter from JD 8.94 million in the first quarter, compared with JD 3.28 million a year earlier.

Domestic borrowing was JD 8.00 million up from JD 3.50 million and JD 3.00 million in the second quarter of 1982.

Money supply rises

Meanwhile, Jordan's narrowly-defined M-1 money supply rose 1.8 per cent in December compared with November to JD 869 million and was 10.4 per cent higher than in December 1982, official figures issued today showed.

M-1 comprises currency in circulation plus demand deposits at banks. The more broadly defined M-2 aggregate, which also includes time deposits, rose 2.5 per cent to JD 1.61 billion and was 15 per cent higher than a year earlier, the Central Bank's monthly bulletin said.

Total assets and liabilities of the banking system in December were unchanged from November at JD 2.16 billion, 15.7 per cent higher than a year earlier.

Gold and foreign exchange reserves rose to JD 691.2 million in December from JD 658.2 million in November and JD 628.4 million in December 1982, the figures showed.

The Central Bank's industrial production index rose 2.8 per cent in December compared with November to 163.5 (base 1979), and was 9.6 per cent higher than in December 1982.

The Amman wholesale price index in the fourth quarter of 1983 was down 0.5 per cent from the previous quarter to 133.8, and was 3.4 per cent higher than in the fourth quarter of 1982.

Hussein, Noor take part in 'Green Amman' campaign

AMMAN (Petra) — Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor Tuesday planted trees in the garden of Al Fateh Mosque as part of the policy to "Green Amman" in the year 1984.

Following their tour of the mosque and its garden, Their Majesties listened to a briefing about the history of the mosque and the project the Amman Municipality has undertaken in order to show off the fine architecture of the mosque which was the first to be constructed in Amman.

Receiving Their Majesties were Chief of the Royal Court Marwan Al Qasem, Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh, Chief Chamberlain

Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid, Amman Mayor Abdul Ra'ouf Al Rawabdeh and Amman Municipality department directors.

Al Fateh Mosque was built by the Jordanian army in the time of the late Prince Abdullah Ibn Al Hussein. Besides the mosque, three rooms were also built and used to teach students. They remained in use until it was decided to increase the importance of the

mosque as an Islamic landmark. The rooms now being used to depict the story of the establishment of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

Amman Municipality has demolished the dilapidated buildings around the mosque and converted the site into a public garden for children and adults.

The garden covers an area of 12 dunums, part of which was allocated for use as a playground for children, while another part was allocated for use as an open-air theatre.

Jordan's Arbor Day celebrations this year took place there.



His Majesty King Hussein and Mayor of Amman Abdul Ra'ouf Rawabdeh Tuesday plant a tree in the grounds of Al Fateh Mosque as part of the campaign in "Green Amman" (Petra photo)

Department to prepare new list of standards

AMMAN (Petra) — The Department of Specifications and Standardisation intends to draw up uniform specifications for 63 items, of which 18 are for foodstuffs, 28 for chemicals and petrochemicals, seven for textiles and paper, three for building materials and seven for electrical and mechanical materials.

The department will also conduct field visits and laboratory tests on a number of industries with a view to selecting the best technical specifications to be incorporated into a new list of standards.

The standard of locally produced goods will be compared to those of imported commodities, and the standard of local production will be evaluated accordingly.

Methods of manufacturing locally will be assessed from a technical and economic point of view and a quality controller will be appointed in each factory studied in order to submit recommendations and proposals relevant to the production of the product.

The department will also continue to follow up the application of existing standard specifications, taking into account the broadened scope of control on imported goods in relation to such regulations.

New lists of the imported goods to which specifications will apply will be issued shortly.

Air accord concluded

AMMAN (Petra) — Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) director-general and Queen Alia International Airport director, Brigadier Mahmoud Jamal Balqaz, said Tuesday that a bilateral air transport agreement between Jordan and Singapore has been concluded.

On his return with an accompanying delegation from Singapore here Tuesday, Brigadier Balqaz said that, according to this agreement, twice weekly regular flights between the two countries will start next May.

Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airlines and Singapore Airlines enjoy all transport rights with each other and all other countries, he said.

The delegation to Singapore included representatives from Alia and from the CAA.

Saket briefs U.N. team on education violations

AMMAN (Petra) — Education Minister Hikmat Saket Tuesday received a group of United Nations specialists headed by the U.N. human settlements specialist, Mr. Madawalla.

During the meeting there was a review of the educational situation in the Arab occupied territories, the occupational authorities practices in disorienting and misrepresenting the educational syllabus, and the arbitrary actions taken against the educational institutions and staff there, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said.

The U.N. specialists were also received by Education Ministry secretary-general, Dr. Abdul Latif Arabiyat, who gave a full review of the educational situation in the occupied Arab territories and the occupational authorities practices of closing down Arab universities and interfering in the curriculum as well as in administrative affairs, Petra said.

There was also a review of Arab graduate work opportunities in the occupied territories.

The meeting was also attended by a number of Education Ministry specialists.

The U.N. delegation visiting Jordan presently is collecting information in order to submit a report on the present and future effects of the Israeli settlements on the living conditions of Palestinian people in the Arab occupied territories to the U.N. secretary-general.

University language centre begins English programme

IRBID (Petra) — Yarmouk University's language centre Tuesday began its English language programme for teachers at the preparatory and secondary school stages and for teachers in community colleges in Jordan.

A total of 60 participants are taking part in the courses which consist of 60 hours, according to the centre's Director Muhammad Awad.

He said that the participants will have modern facilities to improve their reading, writing and conversational capabilities and skills including the use of the language laboratory under the supervision of specialists.

Also, the participants will be orientated on modern teaching methods to be applied in their field, Dr. Awad said.

Editor: U.S. Mideast policy reflects internal politics

AMMAN (Petra) — Richard Parker, editor of the Middle East Journal issued by the Middle East Institute in the United States, has said that in many cases America has no clear-cut policy towards the Middle East.

He also emphasised that such policy is often a reflection of the internal political issues of the country, and added that America's policy in Lebanon was based on a series of faulty assumptions.

Mr. Parker said there are several attitudes which the Arabs must adopt if they are to accept America's commitment towards Israel. Otherwise, Arabs must assess their position clearly and point out what they expect the U.S. to do in order to solve the Palestinian problem.

Mr. Parker was speaking Monday at a meeting of the World Affairs Society. Some of the society members raised the subject of Israel's rejection of President Reagan's initiative.

Mr. Parker commented on this saying that Israel has expressed an unwillingness to withdraw voluntarily from the occupied Arab territories.

Mr. Parker further said that the continuation of the occupation of Arab land is not in the interest of Israel, since it will eventually lead to disastrous consequences to Israel.

Mr. Parker then spoke about a fundamental change on the American arena saying that 118 universities in the United States are currently teaching several subjects related to the Middle East.

In addition, Mr. Parker went on to say, articles attacking Israel have started to appear in the American papers.

This change, Mr. Parker added, has not so far had a great influence on American policy in the Middle East. In 1980, Mr. Parker retired from the foreign service and accepted an appointment as diplomat-in-residence at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville.

Soviet actress talks about film industry as festival starts

By Salameh B. Ne'matt
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The famous Soviet actress Valentina Tilkichina who starred in films like "Journalist", "Vassa" and "The Beginning" is currently on a visit here, accompanied by the External Relations Department State Committee of the USSR for cinematography representative, Mr. Vladimir Pushkin, and Mr. Vladimir Vassiliev from the Soviet film exports, who is responsible for marketing films in Jordan, Kuwait and Iraq.

At a press conference held at the Soviet Cultural Centre Tuesday, the visiting delegation briefed reporters on the development of the Soviet film industry and its great influence on people in the Soviet Union.

Mr. Pushkin said there are more than 150,000 film projectors and 4,000 cinemas throughout the nation and that, during last year alone, three billion people watched films in the USSR.

The Soviet Union holds annual film festivals such as the Moscow and Tashkent festivals in which film-makers from all over the world participate including Arab



Valentina Tilkichina

film producers from Jordan, Syria, Tunisia, Algeria and Egypt.

Last year Jordan won the Novosil Award at the 13th Moscow Festival for its entry "The Bride and The Dowry" which was directed by Jordanian film-maker Ibrahim Abu Nab.

The film depicts the living conditions of Palestinians under Israeli occupation in the West Bank and Israel's arbitrary measures aimed at evicting Arabs from their lands.

The Soviet actor enjoys the

same rights as his fellow citizen and everyone is entitled to lead his or her own style of life, Ms. Tilkichina said at the press conference.

"It's strictly a personal matter", she maintained.

Ms. Tilkichina, who was awarded the Lenin Komsomol Film Award, studied 18 years ago at the Academy of Arts in Moscow. "I like comedy roles in general and I am currently working with the best film-makers in the Soviet film industry", she said.

Speaking at the press conference, Mr. Pushkin said that the Soviet film industry has never been a commercial industry because all revenues from films are spent on developing the industry in addition to constant government financial support.

In the countryside, he said, people enjoy watching films in cinemas for nominal fees and there are mobile film units travelling throughout the nation to show films in the remotest areas where there are no cinemas. This emphasises the cultural role the film industry plays in the life of the Soviet people.

Commenting on the influence of Western films of the Soviet film



Vladimir Pushkin, Vladimir Vassiliev and Valentina Tilkichina, in Amman for the Soviet film festival which began Monday, Tuesday give a press conference at the Soviet Cultural Centre (Petra photo)

production, Mr. Pushkin said it is there are Soviet film-makers influenced by western productions. However these films are called "catastrophe" films because of their failure to portray Soviet traditions and culture and because those film-makers do not have any solid ground on which to base these kinds of films.

Two years ago, Mr. Vassiliev said, an agreement was signed between Jordan Television (JTV) and Soviet television under which Soviet films would be shown on JTV; since then two children's films only have been broadcast. The Jordan Cineclub, who invited the Soviet delegation, promised to approach JTV to try to have more Soviet films shown.

Cineclub is organising, in co-operation with the Soviet Cultural Centre in Amman, a Soviet film festival at the Royal Cultural Centre which started Monday and will last for a week.

Attending the press conference were members of the local press, director of the Soviet Cultural Centre and consultant for the Soviet embassy, Dr. Elman Arasli, the Soviet press attaché, Mr. Vladimir Kedrov, members of the Jordanian Cineclub and a number of film enthusiasts in Jordan.

Final preparations herald the opening of Mu'ta University this October

By Anne Counsell
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Preparations are currently underway for the permanent site of Mu'ta University to receive students in the coming academic year commencing in October. At present the university is operating from a temporary site in Amman whilst the permanent site at Mu'ta, 10 kilometres south-east of Karak, is being constructed and equipped.

Last week the International Contracting and Investments Company (ICICO) won a contract to build lecture halls and student living quarters at the permanent site at a cost of JD 2.215 million, and a tender for catering, laundry and other facilities was awarded to a Jordanian company Saturday as part of the preparations.

In an interview with the Jordan Times, Dr. Ali Mahafzah, vice-president of Mu'ta University, outlined the developments, plans and objectives of the university. He said that a Royal Commission decided in August 1983 that the University of Mu'ta should open its permanent site in time for the academic year 1984/85 and the university administration has begun their preparations to provide the university with furniture, equipment, laboratories and workshops.

However, the buildings that already existed at Mu'ta were found to be insufficient for the coming four years so it was decided to complete necessary buildings on an area of 20,500 square metres, the contract being awarded to ICICO, said Dr. Mahafzah. All the essential equipment and furniture is being supplied by Jordanian companies following ten-



Ali Mahafzah

der awards and they will be installed and ready by August this year he added.

Academic faculties

Regarding the academic faculties, Dr. Mahafzah said that courses in maths and computer sciences, physics, chemistry, electrical engineering, mechanical engineering, Arabic language and literature, English language and literature, law, management, and accounting will commence in October this year in accordance with the decision of the Royal Commission. In addition there will be courses in military and police sciences, also from October 1984.

Dr. Mahafzah said that the university expects to enroll 330 new students for the next academic year in addition to moving 110 students from the Faculty of Police Sciences in Amman to the permanent site so there will be a

total of 440 students at the new Mu'ta University. At present there are seven teaching staff members in the Faculty of Law and Management and there will be an additional 20 for the other disciplines, said Dr. Mahafzah. Also provisions for ensuring qualified Jordanian staff were made by sending about 200 graduates to the United States, Great Britain and France to obtain their Ph.Ds last year, he said. These qualified students will then return to take up posts at the university in 1986/87, by which time other buildings will be completed and the university will have expanded, he added.

Philosophy and objectives

Dr. Mahafzah went on to outline the ideas behind Mu'ta University and the objectives for its establishment. He said that higher education in Jordan has received special attention in the past two decades because it has become increasingly in demand. In spite of the fact that there are two universities in the country, the University of Jordan and Yarmouk University, it is estimated that about 50,000 Jordanian students are pursuing higher education abroad. In 1981 it was decided to establish Mu'ta University in the southern part of Jordan in order to absorb a certain number of secondary school graduates as one way of reducing the problem, in addition to increasing enrollment at the two other universities, he said.

"Mu'ta University aims at quality" said Dr. Mahafzah, "it will concentrate on the quality of education to train leaders (for the country) who will have both ac-

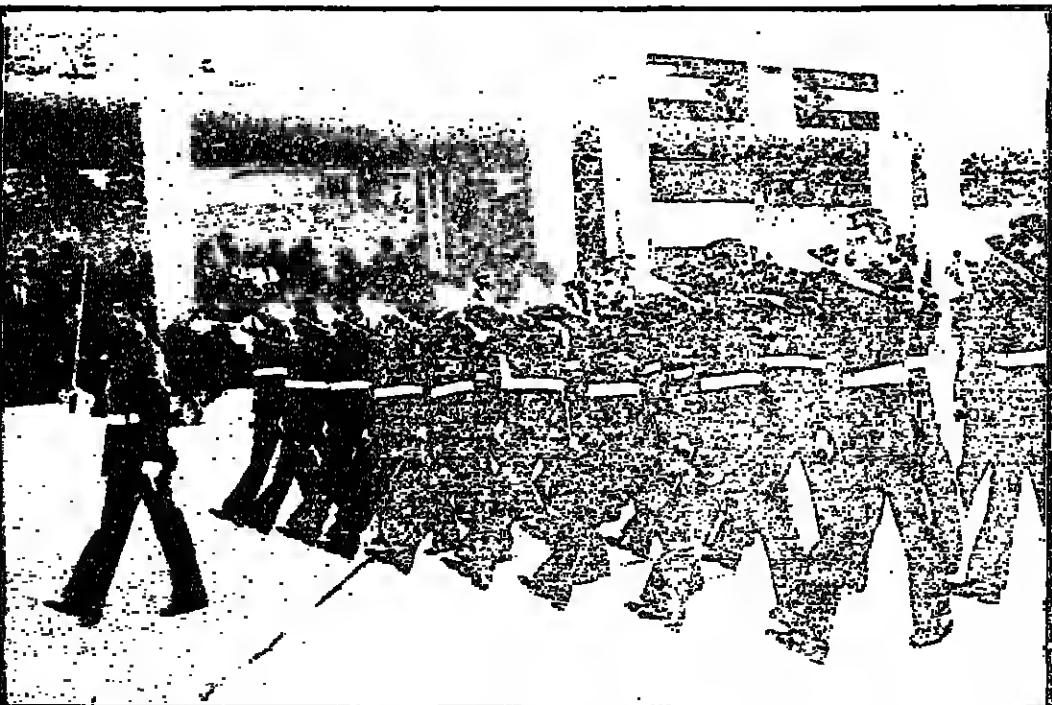
ademic studies and military training." He emphasised that military training is very important to equip students with refined values, morals and discipline so that they can contribute to their country. In this way, Mu'ta University is not a traditional type of university as military training will be the basis of study for all the students, although they will not all be in the police or military forces. Only one quarter of the students at the university will go into the police or armed forces, said Dr. Mahafzah, but all the students will be considered as reserve officers in the armed forces.

Contributing to development

Another objective of Mu'ta University is to contribute to the economic and social development in the southern part of the country, said Dr. Mahafzah. "There is a university in the north, a second in Amman and with Mu'ta established in the south, there will be balanced distribution, enabling all people in Jordan to enjoy the results of development," he said. In addition, Mu'ta will help the local area exploit its natural resources and provide skilled manpower for the potash, fertiliser and cement factories as well as conducting applicable research, he added.

Also, Mu'ta aims to provide the armed forces and public security with qualified officers equipped with academic and scientific knowledge as well as military training, he said, and, through scientific and military research, Mu'ta hopes to apply the results in the service of general Jordanian development and successful execution in the military fields.

The University of Mu'ta was



Graduates passing out from the Police and Military Sciences Academy which is now attached to the newly founded Mu'ta University (J.T. file photo)

created on April 16, 1981 by a provisional law. A Royal Commission was appointed by His Majesty King Hussein for this purpose, said Dr. Mahafzah, and Lt.-Gen. Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, the commander of the armed forces, is the president of this commission. In August 1981 a liaison office was established in Amman and the Faculty of Police Sciences joined the university with Dr. Mahafzah as dean of the faculty, he said.

Master plan

The first tasks of the newly est-

ablished university and the commission were to prepare a master plan and ensure that qualified teaching staff would be available. A contract was signed with Dar Al Handasah for the master plan which was completed seven months ago and approved by the commission, said Dr. Mahafzah. According to the master plan, the university will comprise 240,000 square metres of buildings to accommodate a capacity of 5,000 students by the 1990s.

The site of Mu'ta University covers an area of 5,000 dunums on

which the former King Faisal II College is situated. The college is now part of the new Mu'ta University, with the college buildings being used while other buildings are erected and equipped. Dr. Mahafzah said that these buildings will be used by 1,400 students over the next four years until the first stage of the master plan is completed in 1989, at which time, he said, the university will be able to double its enrollment.

The second stage of the master plan is expected to be completed by 1992, said Dr. Mahafzah, fac-

ilitating the accommodation of 3,300 students. The third and final stage of the master plan is expected to commence in 1992 and it is hoped that by 1996 all the construction will be completed and that the university will be able to accommodate its full quota of 5,000 students, he said. The first stage of the construction is expected to start in 1985.

The total expected cost of the university will exceed JD 70 million depending on inflation and costs, said Dr. Mahafzah, and the preliminary preparations to equip the buildings for the academic year are expected to be JD 6-6½ million. The first stage of the master plan is estimated to cost in the region of JD 18 million. The Iraqi government has guaranteed a JD 15 million grant, of which the university has received JD 1 million so far to help with construction costs. Further finances for the university will come from the university taxes and the permanent income of the university. The University of Mu'ta prepares a request through the National Planning Council (NPC) for a \$2 million loan to the European Community (EC) last week to purchase equipment for the departments of physics and chemistry.

Dr. Mahafzah said that once the university is established, it is hoped that there will be exchange agreements and co-operation between Mu'ta and other similar institutions in Europe and the U.S. Dr. Mahafzah is due to visit military colleges in England and West Germany this month and has also been to other institutions in the region to further this aim.

By Tara Bradford

MIDDLE EAST HORIZON

They cannot eradicate Palestinian memory

Consider the following scenario:

A female attorney in Israel is representing a Palestinian man before the court. The charges? Crossing the border into Israel illegally and suspected terrorism. The defense? Original maps, photographs and legal documents of a house and land belonging to the Palestinian's family. The verdict? Therein lies the puzzle.

In the process of gathering evidence for her defence, the lawyer drives through the countryside, searching for the town shown on the map given to her by the Palestinian. She stops the car and asks an Israeli military guard for more specific directions, but he promptly informs her no such place exists.

When she shows the guard the map of Palestine, the expression on his face changes from arrogance to confusion. Suddenly he nods his head in recognition. Yes, he says, you mean so-and-so, indicating a nearby Jewish village.

When the lawyer finds the house, she joins a tour, during which the guide points out various remnants of the house's acknowledged Arab history, including a black and white photograph of the Palestinian's family, the definitive proof she needs to corroborate her client's assertions.

Armed with the evidence, the defense attorney clashes angrily with the district attorney, in a courtroom that is becoming increasingly crowded, as the trial attracts the attention of higher authorities. It also fuels the fervor of Israeli dissidents, provoking numerous demonstrations and organised protests. And the attorney receives threatening phone calls from Zionists incensed by her defense of an Arab.

After several days' heated debate, the defense attorney is warned by government authorities, the land rights issue is getting out of hand and an immediate end to the trial is ordered. An emotional plea bargaining session results in the Palestinian spending three months in jail. He is released only after going on a hunger strike, at which time the defense attorney volunteers full responsibility for his actions while he remains in the country.

Needless to say, the Palestinian does not get his house or property back and is subject to constant surveillance by the Israeli Intelligence Service. Finally, he is accused of placing a bomb on a bus carrying tourists near the same house where he grew up and is once again forced to flee the country.

This is the basic plot for the 1983 film "Hanna K" produced by Greek director Costa-Gavras. It is also an all too familiar real-life story for Palestinians everywhere. The movie (which predictably received negative reviews by the Israeli media, but surprisingly positive ones by the New York press) was widely publicised with an advertising slogan something to the effect "They didn't want to hear, but her words could bring down the country." Indeed.

In a similar parallel, Israeli Attorney Felicia Langer told me she experienced harassment and threats when, in 1980, she defended deported Palestinian Mayors Fahd Qaw-

asmi of Hebron and Mohammad Milhem of Halhoul (both living in Amman at the present). This was not the first time Ms. Langer was harassed for her defence of Arabs against the state (grimly recounted in her 1975 book, "With My Own Eyes").

All this controversy over the same subject: land, and thus the question of Palestine.

In 1969, the same year that Israeli Prime Minister Golda Meir proclaimed Palestinians do not exist, General Moshe Dayan told Ha'aretz: "We came to this country, which was already populated by Arabs and we are establishing a Hebrew, that is a Jewish state here. In considerable areas of the country [in actuality, about six per cent] we bought the land from the Arabs. Jewish villages were built in the place of Arab villages. You do not even know the names of these Arab villages, and I do not blame you, because these geography books no longer exist: not only do the books not exist, but the Arab villages are not there either." ...there is not one place built in this country that did not have a former Arab population." Dayan stressed.

The chairman of the Israeli League of Human Rights, Professor Israel Shahak reinforces Dayan's remarks, but in more detail: "More than 400 villages were 'destroyed' completely, with their houses, gardens, walls and even cemeteries and tombstones, so that literally a stone does not remain standing and visitors are passing and being told that 'it was all desert'."

Again, this is painfully apparent to all Palestinians who lost their homeland.

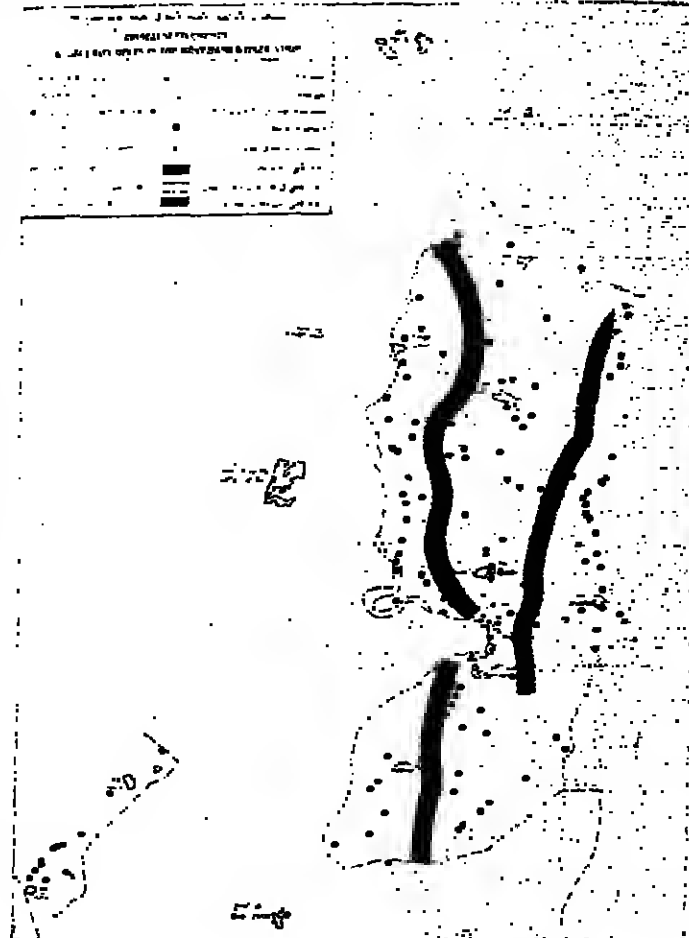
The Jordan National Geographic Centre has published an atlas illustrating the boundaries of Palestine, from its historical conception to the changing demographic character of occupied lands today. However, the maps contained therein do not name the cities and villages which were eradicated by the Israelis.

In the introduction to "The Palestine Question in Maps," His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan notes that "Jordan's attachment to the Palestinian problem emanates from the conviction and responsibility towards preserving Arab rights..." He says the atlas is "an attempt to demonstrate, through detailed maps, the major developments of the Palestinian question."

The 37 maps are particularly valuable in tracing expansion of the Israeli settlements — what former Jordan Ambassador to the United Nations Hazem Nusseibeh often referred to in his speeches to the Security Council as "the creeping annexation of the West Bank."

The atlas also outlines "security belt" settlements in the West Bank and Gaza Strip (see map), which were conceived in the Dalet Plan to capture strategic heights dominating the most likely lines of advance of any invading armies. The belts were designed to create a continuous Jewish-held area extending from the north to the south.

A perfect example of this is Upper Nazareth, created upon the hills surrounding the original Arab Nazareth as a security belt, embracing it on almost all sides.



In 1977, the American National Lawyers Guild visited the West Bank and concluded that the settlements appear to be part of an Israeli government policy of populating the West Bank and Gaza with its own citizens "to facilitate the eventual incorporation and annexation of those areas into Israel."

These Israeli settlement policies have been repeatedly condemned by international

law, including the Fourth Geneva Convention, and various United Nations Security Council and General Assembly resolutions. Yet the settlements continue.

Whether or not the original maps of those 400 villages systematically destroyed by the Israelis still exist, or are ever reproduced, the memory of them cannot be snuffed out in the burning flame of Palestinian consciousness.

Impotence of bombs

THOSE Israeli army units patrolling north of the Awali line have a mission to demonstrate that Israel is not abandoning the area, according to Defence Minister Moshe Arens; and the air raids against Shouf mountain towns are presumably to prevent Palestinian fighters from returning to their old bases in Beirut and the Lebanese south. But what do the Israelis really hope to achieve by escalating their military activity in Lebanon? They have themselves, physically, been there before, with all their guns and tanks, what have they accomplished?

Israel, it seems, will not learn the lesson the Lebanon invasion should have taught it, namely that the use of force could never achieve for the Israelis the kind of security their leaders say they want for them. Menachem Begin and Gen. Sharon sent the Israeli army into Lebanon in June, 1982 for "a few days" operation to destroy the PLO and instal a regime in Beirut friendly to them. Look where the two men are now, 20 months after, and what kind of "security" Israel enjoys as a result.

If, by re-asserting the Israeli military role in the bigger half of Lebanon, Begin's and Sharon's successors think all will be well and fine for them, the two men need look no farther than at their predecessor's bitter experience with the war, and at the outcome of a strictly adventurous policy that got Israel nowhere — save to the brink of disaster.

Premier Shamir and his defence minister, Arens, admittedly are in a dilemma over their precarious and costly position in Lebanon, but they have only themselves to blame for the mess there. It is Israel's morass, and no amount of firepower can erase it.

Maybe the two Likudniks are convinced that bombing and foraying up north will pressure the Druze and the Shi'ites into stopping the Palestinians from returning. But are they the Palestinians, and not the Lebanese resistance fighters, who are daily attacking the Israeli armoured vehicles south of the Awali? And since when have Israel's air raids stopped determined men from resisting and fighting?

There is a limit to the Israeli arrogance and to the use of deadly methods of destruction that the Likud government has not yet understood, nor accepted. It shows up, however, every time when Israeli bombs are directed against the innocent women and children in Lebanon.

Force will solve nothing for Israel. Its continued use underscores its impotence.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Barbaric, irresponsible acts

THE ATTACK on Jordan's embassy in Tripoli seemed to most of us to be a barbaric act which violated international principles and norms. But for the Libyan regime it was quite natural because that regime has been practicing such actions for a long time and harbouring terrorists and encouraging criminal acts against other Arab countries. The Libyan regime has adopted this line of policy to deal with others and it is now up to others, especially Arab governments, to stand up to the Libyan regime and put an end to its irresponsible policies which have often inflicted harm on our causes.

Jordan is handling the issue with both wisdom and reason because it wants to maintain its status as a country that respects itself and respects international principles and conventions. The Libyans have proved to be quite the opposite and are indifferent as to their country's image before the world. We are indeed pained to see the Libyan government being degraded by such a low level of behaviour which proves that it has no respect for other countries. Jordan cannot allow its embassy and its citizens to be a target for such barbaric attacks by such irresponsible people and their governments and therefore has to take appropriate measure to counteract them.

Al Dustour: Relations must be reconsidered

THE DETAILED information given to the Upper House of Parliament Monday by Prime Minister Ahmad Obaidat about the burning of the Jordanian embassy in Tripoli proves that the Libyan authorities have been accomplices to the crime. This premeditated attack, which comes as yet another link in a long chain of Libyan malpractices, should be ended because it violates Arab and Islamic ethics and harms international relations. In view of the facts and information presented to the Upper House, Jordan ought to reconsider seriously its relations with Libya so as to help stop such actions and to safeguard this country, its institutions and citizens.

Also it is illogical to leave this matter unresolved, and appropriate action must be taken to safeguard our dignity and respect. We must bear in mind that the Libyan authorities have launched systematic attacks on Jordan and the burning of the embassy in Tripoli was the climax of such hostile attitudes towards Jordan. Furthermore, the Libyan regime has tried to mar Palestinian-Jordanian relations by involving Palestinian groups in this attack.

We are sure that the government's decision in this matter will be in the best interest of Jordan and its security and stability.

Sawt Al Shaab: Time to end weakness

THE LAST three decades marked a black chapter in the history of inter-Arab relations. While the Arab Nation was weak and controlled in its own internal problems and conflicts which made it easy prey to its enemies, Israel's invasion of Lebanon and its siege of the Lebanese capital were the best manifestation of such weakness and divisions that characterised the nation. The attack on Jordan's embassy in Tripoli was designed to cause further splits in the Arab ranks and to weaken the Arab Nation. Therefore, the Arabs have to find a way to cut off the hand which tries to tamper with their unity and their interests.

They must put an end to the irresponsible actions that can cause harm to our causes and benefit our enemies. Appropriate action should be taken in this respect by the Arab League, an Arab summit meeting or any other official body. Indifference to such attacks and such irresponsible actions will further encourage mad and irrational people to pursue their aims and this will eventually endanger our future and cause harm to our causes.



Arab News

Collapse of the Left, economic necessities and petrodollars did it
American decade in the Mideast

By Robert W. Olson

THE DECADE of 1973-1983 was witness to a seeming paradox with regard to U.S. interests and foreign policy in the Middle East. The paradox was characterised by two fundamental trends: the ascendancy of the West and the resurgence of the Arab world. The "repoliticisation" of Islam with the accompanying militancy of some Muslims, especially Shi'ites. Here I am concerned primarily with the first trend.

The ascendancy of the West, meaning Europe and the United States and their form of political and economic patterns, can be attributed to several factors which emerged in the 1960s. First among these was the collapse of the left. Leftist groups in all the Arab countries were hounded, harassed and many of their leaders killed.

In Iran, too, under Shah Pahlavi as under Ayatollah Khomeini, the leftist groups, especially Communists, but including the Mujahidin, have been suppressed. The destruction of the leftist forces by Nasserist or Ba'athist groups in Syria and Iraq made it easier for Arab governments to adopt pro-West policies which meant basically pro-capitalist economic and development programmes.

A second factor in the rise of Western influence in the 1970s, especially that of the United States, were the necessities, largely economic, which compelled Egypt to make peace with Israel. Peace, or more accurately, "normalisation" of relations with Israel, was crucial to the ascendancy of the West. The "peace process" implied that without Egypt, the Arabs — in effect Syria — could not confront Israel, let alone wage war. As a result there was and is great pressure on other Arab countries, especially Saudi Arabia,

especially Saudi Arabia, to follow the ratification of the Camp David accords in 1978 to normalise relations with Israel, especially in the fields of trade and tourism. It must be noted that one of the reasons for Israel's invasion of Lebanon in the summer of 1982 was to "normalise" relations with Lebanon. The failure of Israel to accomplish this and other objectives has led to the current crisis in the Middle East. This is in spite of the fact that Israel had an alliance with the dominant pro-Western group in Lebanon, the Maronite Christians.

The destruction of Lebanon which commenced in the early 1970s and culminated in the civil war of 1975-76 resulted in a reversion to primordial confessionalism, and further weakened the left, and more ominously, the liberal parliamentary alternative as well. In addition, Beirut was no longer able to function as the communications and mass media centre which had served to defuse and to air many of the contending forces in the Arab World. The civil war and subsequent invasions of Lebanon, by Syria in 1976 and by Israel in 1978 and 1982, made it impossible for Beirut to go on serving as a sounding board for resolving conflicts, and its demise as a communications centre accelerated the slide to confessional allegiances.

The third major factor which assisted the ascendancy of the West was the increase in oil prices in 1973, and again in 1979. The increase in oil revenues enhanced the power of the traditional, pro-Western regimes such as Saudi Arabia and the Arab Gulf states. Just as economic need compelled Egypt to sign a peace

treaty with Israel, it also necessitated a Policy of Co-operation with other Arab countries. "Co-operation" rather than "Arab unity" — which had meant Egyptian pre-eminence in Arab politics — became the new motto. In the 1970s Egypt under Sadat was to emphasise "Egyptian" rather than Arab nationalism. Throughout the decade of 1973-1983 Arab oil-producing countries increasingly emphasised Arab solidarity, economic co-operation, maintenance of the political status quo and political consensus rather than the Nasserist type of nationalism which stressed anti-colonialism, non-alignment, republicanism and socialism. Critics in the Arab countries called it a victory of tharwa (riches) over thawra (revolution).

The same oil riches led to a decline in "Arab" politics and to a rise in "country" politics and pluralistic leadership, in place of the charismatic leader. Muammar Qadhafi of Libya quite notably did not fit into this new scheme of Arab politics, and was quickly ostracised, his isolation making him easy prey for U.S. and Western attacks. In short, the oil revenues led to a conservative, traditional and pro-Western stance on the part of nearly all Arab countries, including Iraq, after 1975. Despite increasing differences between Syria and Israel, and with the United States after 1982, Syria, it must be noted, still retained a quasi-secular, somewhat revolutionary nationalist thrust in its domestic ideology and politics. It is important to remember that the largest political opposition movement in Syria is based on Islamic ideological principles which repudiate "Western" values. Hafez Al Assad's opponents claim

We use whatever force we need

By Alan Elsner
Reuter

NABLUS, West Bank — The Israeli officer jumped from his jeep, shouted a few words in Arabic, aimed through his telescopic sight and began firing at the group of Arab youths 50 metres away down the narrow street. The youths scattered.

It was late morning of the day when the Israeli Border Police as a quiet day in Nablus, the largest Arab town on the West Bank, which Israel has occupied since the Arab-Israeli war of 1967.

"Two lumps of metal were thrown at our patrol from a roof top in the commercial street. No-one hurt. Then a group of youths stoned the jeep from the corner of the old city. I warned them to desist, fired a shot in the air and two at their legs. No hits. Request reinforcements, over," he said laconically.

For 24 hours, I was allowed to watch the border police unit to Nablus at close hand. Earlier, in a briefing in the forces' Lydda headquarters near Tel Aviv, Operations Officer Dan Orhad explained why the border police have the reputation of being Israel's toughest, most feared troops on the West Bank.

"We have the reputation of being tough because we don't compromise," he said. "When we decide to break up a demonstration, there's no messing around. We break it up using whatever force is necessary."

The border police are officially part of Israel's police force, but they wear army uniforms and undergo military training. With their green berets, they are a common, and feared, sight in every Arab town on the West Bank.

Orhad acknowledged that part of the force's reputation stemmed from the so-called Kafr Kassem massacre in 1956 when the border police, charged with enforcing a curfew in an Arab village, opened fire on a crowd and killed over 40 civilians.

"That was a black day for us and steps have been taken to see it never happens again. But that doesn't change the fact that a border policeman never retreats. He will kill one or two Arabs if he has no alternative," Orhad said.

Two weeks before, the commander of the Nablus unit, Chief Superintendent Emmanuel, shot two Arabs while breaking up a demonstration in the town centre. He succeeded in hitting them in the legs, as laid down in regulations, but one of his colleagues hit another youth in the head, killing him.

"Listen, you're firing at moving targets. They sometimes crouch or dive to the ground and you don't always have much time to aim," Emmanuel said.

Life in Nablus, a picturesque town of about 80,000 nestled in a deep valley, is a constant contest

between occupier and occupied, with Arab youths seeking to express their frustration with the 17-year-old occupation by making life for the Israelis difficult.

The contest is played out around the old city area known as the Casbah, a rabbit-warren of partially roofed-in alleys and passages in which Arab youths hide within seconds, leaving pursuing Israeli troops blundering blindly in their wake.

"Most of the people here just want to get on with their lives quietly and let's our job to let them do so. We just have a problem with teenagers, who have been incited by professionals belonging to Palestinian organisations," said Emmanuel.

The Casbah has become a virtual no-go area for the Israelis. They only enter in force. A small detachment of soldiers is considered vulnerable to surprise attack from the rear.

At midday, two more jeeps full of border police arrive at the town centre. The youths, faces covered by red-checked kuffiyas (Arab headscarves), have returned to the Casbah entrance and begin throwing rocks at the soldiers. Most fall well short.

Selim advances, beckoning a dozen men to follow. They disappear into the Casbah. There are gunshots, then silence.

After 45 minutes, Selim and his men emerge. One of them has been wounded in the hand by a rock and is sent back to headquarters for treatment.

Selim says the youths ambushed the force as it burst into the Casbah. Rocks rained down on them from rooftops as they chased the boys around a corner.

Ten minutes later, the youths are back at the entrance, taunting the policemen. Selim's superior, Superintendent Mustafa, arrives to take command and orders gas grenades to be thrown into the Casbah. Like Selim he is an Israeli Druze from the Galilee.

One-fifth of the 4,500 men in the border police are Druze or bedouins, but the proportion serving in Nablus is much higher. They outnumber the Jews there and provide four of the six officers on the base.

"We are Israeli first, Druze second," said Selim, who added that the four, and a half months he spent on an Israeli army officer training course was the happiest time of his life.

The skirmish between the youths and policemen goes on most of the afternoon and dies away at sunset. The streets of Nablus rapidly empty as darkness falls.

Last November a rock was thrown at an Israeli car carrying armed Jewish settlers through the town. One of the settlers left the car to chase the attackers. When he failed to find them, he burst into a nearby shop and opened fire at two young girls who had nothing to do with the incident. One was killed and her sister was wounded.



PARAGRAPH: a little mark.

When you are enjoying a book, your reading is made easy by modern punctuation spacing, and paragraphs. In the earliest manuscripts the pages were set solid and without breaks. In order to help the reader of their day, the Greeks placed a short horizontal mark below the line which began a new subject. They called this mark a paragraphos, from para, "by the side of", and graphos, "written". Our word paragraph traces back to this Greek custom.

GRAMMAR: just a letter.

The Greek word *gramma*, meaning a "letter" is the foundation of the Greek grammatical technique, the "art of letters". This passed into the Latin language as *grammatica*, into old French as *grammaire*, and so into English as *grammar*. For several centuries — England, Latin was the language of culture. The educated classes conversed in Latin and their social correspondence was carried on in that language. The word *grammar* during that period meant nothing but Latin grammar, which was regarded as the most important of all the subjects in the curriculum. English grammar schools were so named because one of their chief aims was the teaching of Latin grammar.

ADDRESS: right to the point.

When a speaker makes an address, he gives thought to the "direction" of his points. When a person addresses a letter, he is directing it to a certain party and place. English received the word *address* through the French term *adresser*, originally from the Latin *ad*, "to", and *directus*, "straight", or "right", signifying "right to the point". The earliest meaning of address was "make straight", prepare."

BOYCOTT: First started with Captain Charles Cunningham Boycott

Captain Charles Cunningham Boycott, the first victim of the boycotting practice, was land agent for the estates of the Earl of Erne in County Mayo, Ireland. When the captain raised the rents around the autumn of 1880, the tenants turned on him, under the sponsorship of the Irish Land League. Local shops would sell him nothing, organised marauders destroyed his property and blocked his mail and food supplies, and in the end the captain was glad to flee to England with his life. The occasion was front page news, and the word *boycott* immediately became a part of English.

Sugar cane makes no sweet paper

After 10 years of research, Cuba has developed a method of making high quality cheap newsprint from "bagasse" — sugar cane waste. So instead of inefficiently burning up bagasse for fuel, the world's 45 sugar exporting countries in the developing world could start making their own newsprint and decrease their dependence upon increasingly expensive imported stocks.

By Gilberto Caballero Almeida

HAVANA — After more than 10 years of research, Cuba has succeeded in producing newsprint — the paper on which newspapers are printed — from sugar cane waste.

This is a breakthrough not only for Cuba, but for the 45 or so underdeveloped countries in the world whose economies depend almost exclusively on sugar exports.

The fluctuating price of sugar on world markets has proved an unstable base for any economy. In 1974 it stood at 65 U.S. cents per pound (143 cents/kilo), but is today only about 10 U.S. cents a pound (22 cents/kilo). Under these conditions, any new product which might earn extra foreign currency is welcome.

Like most of the rest of the world, the 45 sugar exporting countries annually import increasingly expensive newsprint —

now costing about \$500 per tonne — made from increasingly scarce wood pulp. Meanwhile, "bagasse", the cane waste which forms the basis of the new Cuban newsprint, is inefficiently burned as fuel in most sugar refineries.

Surveys by several U.N. organisations show that in the present decade the demand for newsprint in the developing world will escalate enormously, perhaps leading to a shortage.

Even if this predicted scarcity does not arise, the simple fact that these countries can produce newsprint from a local raw material, and at the same time spare their forests, has attracted the attention of many international organisations.

Experts from Argentina, Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Egypt, India, Iraq, Mexico, Nicaragua, Peru and other Third World countries have visited Cuba to study the process.

The Cuban paper project, called "Cuba-9", was carried out by

the Cuban Research Institute for Sugar Cane Byproducts (ICIDCA), through an agreement between the Cuban government and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

A \$20 million, semi-industrial pilot plant has been built south of Havana which can produce 35 tonnes of paper daily and five tonnes of "dissolving pulp," an essential raw material in the production of the synthetic fabric rayon, both for the textile industry and for use in the manufacture of tyres.

Dr. Paulino Lopez Guzman, director of Project Cuba-9, notes that scientists have worked for 40 years to find a method of using sugar cane bagasse on an industrial scale to produce cellulose and paper. Today, more than 60 factories in Asia, Africa and Latin America are producing more than two million tonnes of paper a year from bagasse, according to Lopez Guzman.

But two million tonnes of paper made from sugar cane bagasse is very little considering that annual world paper consumption is 174 million tonnes, and that vast amounts of bagasse are available.

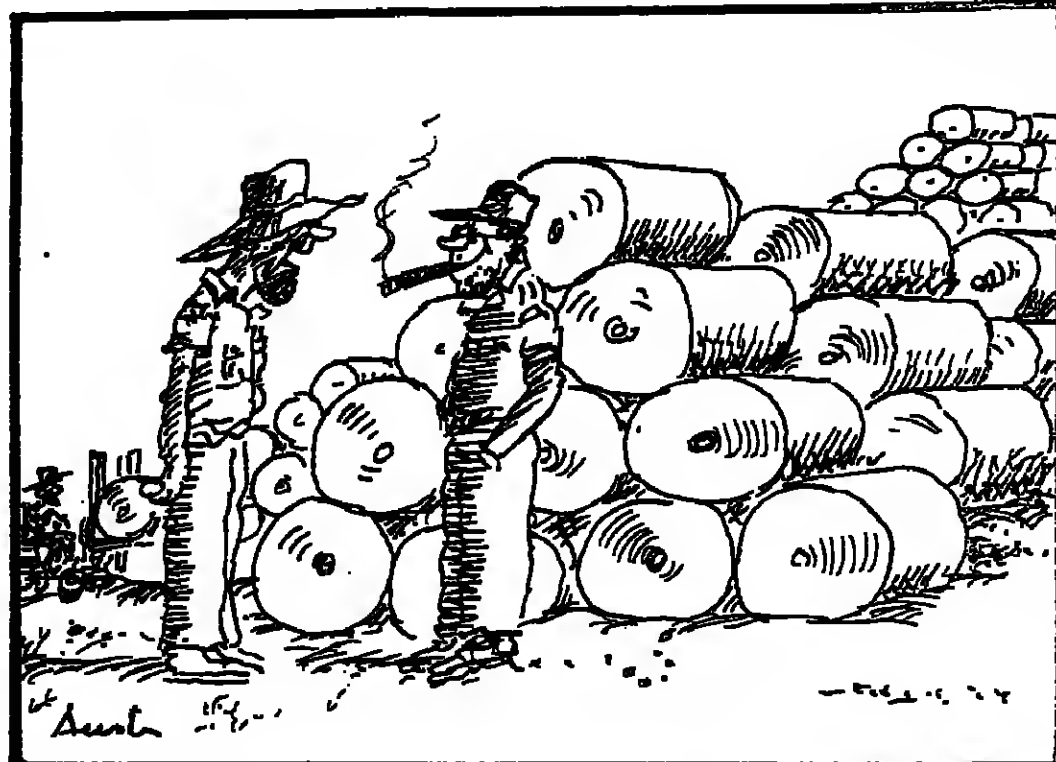
Still, if paper is already being made elsewhere from bagasse,

why has Cuba spent \$20 million on a pilot plant? According to Dr. Joseph E. Atchison, who acted as a UNDP consultant on the Cuban project, there have indeed been many attempts in the last few decades to produce newsprint from bagasse, but the paper obtained was of such low quality that printers rejected it.

So most of the plants around the world which were originally designed to make newsprint have ended up producing other types of finer and more expensive paper. This does not solve the basic problem of producing newsprint which is both cheap and tough enough to be used in today's rapid printing presses.

Mr. Atchison and other experts monitoring the work here feel that the Cuba-9 plant is the first ever to make newsprint of high international standards with a high bagasse pulp content, and at reasonable production costs. Previous attempts had mixed the bagasse pulp with high percentages of wood fibre, making the final product much more expensive.

ICIDCA is also working on other waste products of the sugar industry. Molasses, the other basic byproduct of sugar production after bagasse, can be used to pro-



"We're producing enough newsprint to print Fidel's speeches verbatim!"

duce alcohol, citric acid, sorbitol (used as a sugar substitute and in making industrial resins), the meat tenderiser monosodium glutamate, torula yeast, detergents and pharmaceutical products. The pith, sugar cane's spongy

centre, can be converted through the use of enzymes into protein for animal or human consumption, or through hydrolysis, into furfural, a solvent which has many industrial uses.

According to Dr. Atchison, "ICIDCA is probably doing more work on byproducts from the sugar industry at the present time than any other organisation in the world". — Earthscan feature.

A computer that understands Asians

In Asia the search is on to develop a computer which will understand Chinese and Japanese as well as it understands English. Bob King reports.

TAIPEI — Throughout Asia, businessmen interested in computerising their operations face a major barrier — how to input ideographic languages into computers that function best when fed standard, western-style romanised characters.

A microcomputer recently announced by IBM, coupled with locally-developed software, shows a strong chance of overcoming that barrier.

In Chinese-speaking countries such as Taiwan, China, Singapore, and to some extent, Malaysia, the problem is formidable, because the sheer number of ideographic characters in common use, plus their complexity, puts a severe strain both on hardware memory and on the operators who must use the system.

The problem of computerising Chinese has spawned literally dozens of competing input/output systems. Some use a huge keyboard containing thousands of discrete characters; others use a component approach, breaking down the individual character into its various parts, which the developers claim makes the keyboard more accessible to the occasional user.

The controversy has raged for the past few years over whose sys-

tem is the best all-round with no solution in sight.

Enter IBM, with a 16-bit micro combining strong computing power with a Taiwan-developed system that its inventor claims any Chinese speaker can learn within a few days. The IBM name plus the three years of market exposure which the system has had in Taiwan could help sell the system in other Chinese-speaking parts of the world should the firm decide to export the machine.

IBM has combined its 5550 stand-alone, multi-station micro with the so-called "Dragon" input system, developed by Taiwan inventor Chu Bang-Fu after eight years of research.

IBM developed the 5550 specifically for ideographic systems, and in fact introduced it first in Japan, where a few thousand Chinese characters are used in conjunction with a set of phonetic symbols.

The "Dragon" system is unusual because it is able to input directly more than 20,000 Chinese characters using the standard Qwerty keyboard and without resorting to phonetic equivalents or numerical codes.

The Dragon system arranges the approximately 240 characters-components into 24

groups, each represented by a symbol that resembles all the group's components. In Mr. Chu's version, read-only memory software then translates the symbols typed by the operator into the appropriate components and assembles the character. If a given set of symbols can generate several characters, the computer displays them all and asks the operator to choose the appropriate one.

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Unlike Mr. Chu's design, though, the 5550 stores character fonts on diskette, from where they are loaded into random-access memory. According to the company, this results in better resolution and allows the user to create new characters at will, rather than tying him to a format mapped in read-only memory.

The IBM package offers 11,000 characters on diskette, more than enough for most applications, plus the ability to create more in graphics mode. Later releases will

expand the character set, the company says.

The mainstay of the 5550 is the microcircuit disk-operating system (MS-DOS), likely to become the 16-bit industry standard. It supports a two-byte per-character design needed for ideographic scripts such as Chinese and Thai. The company would not comment on the possibility of introducing the machine in countries where other ideographic scripts are used, but personnel admitted the machine "could support" such scripts, as well as the simplified Chinese characters in use in nations such as Singapore and China.

Applications software represents the system's greatest shortcoming at present. IBM says independent software houses here are hard at work developing Chinese word-processing software, a file management system, and other specialised software, as well as modifying existing packages to run on the machine.

Depending on disk-configuration and memory-size, the 5550 sells in Taiwan for the equivalent of \$5,500 to \$12,500 including a 40-character per-second, high-resolution dot-matrix printer.

The company is converting English-language programmes now available for the IBM personal computer to allow them to run on the 5550, thus making the machine bi-lingual. — Financial Times news features.

'Van' means a lot to Armenians

By Hugh Carnegie

Reuter

VAN, Turkey — Below the ancient ruins of Van castle, overlooking the dark blue waters of Van Lake, lie the eerie remains of a dead city.

Only a couple of mosques and a few crumbling walls still stand on the site that was once a bustling centre largely peopled by Christian Armenians.

But from the top of the craggy castle rock, a strategic fortress since it was built on more than seven centuries before Christ, can be seen the rough outlines of a town that until World War I had some 15,000 homes.

After the bitterly disputed events of 1915, when Armenians say 1.5 million of their people in the region were massacred by order of the Ottoman imperial government, old Van was flattened and reduced to a population of only a few thousand.

Turkey has always denied the massacre charge, saying the Armenians were deported or fled after siding with Tsarist Russian forces fighting a war against the Ottomans in what is now the eastern extreme of Turkey.

Although the new city of Van, built inland from the old lakeside site, now has a population of about 200,000 people, locals say none of them are Armenian.

Most of today's inhabitants of Van and surrounding areas, which are claimed by Armenian mil-

itants abroad, belong to Turkey's eight million strong ethnic Kurdish minority whose mother tongue is neither Turkish nor Armenian.

There are still around 40,000 Armenians living in Turkey, but most are 1,700 kilometres away in Istanbul.

Three million Armenians live in Soviet Armenia, which borders the Van area, and several million more are scattered about the world, mainly in the Middle East, the United States and Europe.

Local people around Van say there are pockets of Armenians in remote villages deep in the lofty mountains of the region, but few outward signs of Armenian life remain.

One striking exception is the 10th-century Akdamar Church, standing prominently on an island in Van Lake, some 40 kilometres from the city by the southern lake shore.

Many Armenians from abroad come to Van in summer to visit the church, once part of an important monastery.

Another thousand-year-old Armenian church stands at the village of Yedi Kilise (seven churches), about 15 kilometres south-east of Van.

Yedi Kilise used to be an important religious and cultural centre for the Armenians. Now it is peopled by Kurdish farmers who use the remains of the church and its attendant buildings as a barn.

The top of the central dome has

collapsed, allowing a heap of snow to pile up in the aisle in winter.

Cars, farm tools, straw and animal feed are stacked around inside, partly obscuring painted murals on the walls.

Some murals are completely exposed, the faded but clear features of a bishop in full regalia contrasting oddly with the agricultural implements.

In Van itself, the local museum is full of relics of Christians, Seljuks, Ottomans and others who peopled the region.

But it contains no reference to the Armenians, who trace their civilisation back almost 4,000 years and established the first Christian state in 300 A.D.

Turks are quick to say that during the Ottoman Empire, they fell apart after World War I, they worked side by side with Armenians many of whom flourished, rising to important bureaucratic posts or becoming rich traders.

Feelings towards the Armenians have been badly soured over the past decade by a series of attacks by Armenian guerrillas on Turkish targets in which dozens of people have been killed, mostly Turks living abroad.

However, Armenians in Turkey are able to worship in their churches, run schools and publish Armenian-language papers.

The nearest working Armenian church to Van is the cavernous church of St. George in the southeastern city of Diyarbakir, 300 kilometres away.

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Navratilova, Hanika advance in national indoor tennis

EAST HANOVER, New Jersey (AP) — Martina Navratilova, showing no signs of a 35-day layoff, defeated Nancy Yeargin, 6-3, 6-2, in a 55-minute first-round match Monday night in the \$150,000 Computerland U.S. Women's National Indoor Tennis Championships.

"I was a little nervous at the start but I found that I was well prepared," said the top-ranked Navratilova, a Czech native who had a 54-match winning streak snapped by compatriot Hana Mandlikova in her last appearance.

Navratilova proved devastating on her return of serve and with her unrelenting attack. She won 11 of the final 13 points.

In another match, sixth-seeded Sylvia Hanika, of West Germany, was extended to three sets before beating Beth Herr, 6-4, 3-6, 6-3.

Carling Bassett of Canada and Pam Casale were winners in other first-round matches.

Bassett used her speed and ground strokes to score a 6-1, 6-0 victory over qualifier Ginny Purdy, while Casale earned three service breaks in each set and beat Eva Pfaff of West Germany, 6-2, 6-2.

Casale, who will meet Tracy Austin next, ran down some of Pfaff's best attacking shots. She was broken in the first game, but she came back to gain service breaks in the second, sixth and eighth games.

England skipper concerns over batting doldrums

WELLINGTON (R) — England's batting doldrums are a continuing headache for captain Bob Willis as the side prepares for their second one-day Cricket International against New Zealand here Wednesday.

Willis said the failure of all but Derek Randall to make big scores consistently was the prime topic of discussion at a team meeting Tuesday.

"One conclusion we have drawn is that English players are used to playing every day. They find it hard to maintain form when they are not doing that," Willis said.

David Gower, who usually bats

at number three in the England order, is opener again in a team unchanged from that which won the first match in the best-of-three series by 54 runs on Saturday.

Gower was out for nine then, but the England selectors have decided he is still the best bet to get England off to a good start.

Willis said: "We talked about our opening batsmen for a short time. David said he was still willing to open the batting if we thought it was a good idea. He feels he is in reasonable nick and should be getting runs."

New Zealand's side is the same as for the Christchurch match, though opener John Wright has an ear infection and may not play.

Trevor Franklin, who toured England last year but is not named in the New Zealand side which leaves on Sunday for Sri Lanka, will open if Wright is not available. Franklin was 12th man in Christchurch.

England — David Gower, Chris Smith, Allan Lamb, Derek Randall, Ian Botham, Mike Gatting, Vic Marks, Bob Taylor, Neil Foster, Bob Willis (captain), Norman Cowans.

Spasov, Kumar draw in chess

NEW DELHI (AP) — Losing their knights and deciding not to take risks, Bulgarian grandmaster L.D. Spasov and Indian Ravi Kumar settled for a draw in 38 moves Monday in the fifth round of the International Grandmasters Chess Tournament here.

Reigning world women's titlist Maya Cheburdonize of the Soviet Union appeared headed for a win when she adjourned her contest with India's national champion, Pravin Thipsay.

Stecca faces Cruz today

MILAN, Italy (AP) — Italian challenger Loris Stecca conceded Monday that World Boxing Association (WBA) junior featherweight champion Leo Cruz is the "clear favourite" in their title fight at the local sports palace Wednesday night.

"I am young and I have a lot to learn from Wednesday's fight. He is the champion and he is the clear favourite. But be sure that I will do whatever I can to reverse the predictions," the 23-year-old Italian told a news conference in this north Italian city.

Cruz, a 31-year-old Dominican who lives in Puerto Rico, did not meet reporters and his manager Sergio Lugo explained the world champion was completing training in local gymnasium and was unwilling to lose his concentration for the fight.

Lugo did not hide that Cruz still was slightly above the category limit of 122 pounds or 55.338 kilograms by Monday.

"He will have no problem however in making the weight by Wednesday noon. He is fit and in top condition," Lugo said.

Cruz, who has been training in Milan since Feb. 13, will be staging a voluntary defence against Stecca — his fourth since he won the WBA crown from Argentina's Sergio Palma in June, 1982.

Stecca, a boxer with an excellent technique, left his European featherweight title vacant, and lost 1.7 kilos, to fight Cruz.

Chinese manage to beat Jordanian basketball team

AMMAN (J.T.) — A visiting Chinese national basketball team managed to score a neck-to-neck 94-92 win over the Jordanian national basketball team in a friendly match held at the Sports City Stadium Tuesday.

The match was held under the patronage of His Majesty King Hussein.

The Jordanian team played a "brilliant and very tough game" with the much more experienced Chinese team, according to a Chinese spokesman.

The Chinese team is scheduled

to play two more matches in Jordan before departing for the Central African Republic on Feb. 27.

In the two friendly matches the Chinese visitors will meet the Yarmouk University basketball team in Irbid on Feb. 23, and again with the national team on Feb. 25 at the Sports City.

Chinese Ambassador to Jordan Hsiao Shioe, and hundreds of Jordanian and Chinese sports enthusiasts enjoyed Tuesday's match.

Both teams displayed a very good and organized passing and shooting, according to sports experts.

IOC to give \$135,000 to S.Korea

SEOUL (R) — The International Olympic Committee (IOC) will provide South Korea with \$135,000 in 1984 to help promote sports in the country, a spokesman for the Korean Olympic Committee said Tuesday.

The money, allocated under the IOC's Olympic solidarity programme, compares with the \$36,000 granted last year.

The spokesman said the increase was needed because the 1988 Olympics would be held in Seoul.

The money will be spent on wrestling, swimming, soccer, handball, equestrian games, hockey, rowing and yachting.

Australia bats well against Leewards

BASSETTERRE, St. Kitts (R) — The Australians were well on the way to opening their Caribbean tour on a winning note against the Leeward Islands here Tuesday.

Kim Hughes' touring team had the Leewards reeling on 96 for six at lunch after they were set 375 to win in six hours on the fourth and final day of the first tour match.

The Australians made their victory push after declaring at the overnight 250 for seven in their second innings.

The six wickets to fall were evenly shared by pace trio Carl Rackemann, Terry Alderman and John Maguire, who bowled tidily enough but the batsmen were victims of their own misplaced exuberance.

Except for Shiran Williams, every player fell to an attacking shot, and opener Livingston Lawrence (33) and sealer captain Victor Eddy (38) were the only batsmen to reach double figures.

Although the first three wickets tumbled for 21 in just over half an hour, Lawrence and Eddy would not curb themselves and stroked the ball so freely that the total reached 50 in only the ninth over.

Lawrence and Eddy put on 49 for the fourth wicket in 37 minutes, with the former initially looking vulnerable against the ball leaving him but nonetheless playing handsomely.

Eddy made his runs gracefully in 66 minutes before aiming across the line at Maguire and falling leg before.

Barefoot-runner clocks best time

BLOEMFONTEIN, South Africa (R) — Barefoot South African Zola Budd, who last month smashed the world 5,000 metres women's record, set what is believed to be the fastest junior 1.500 metres time here Monday.

The slight 17-year-old ran the distance in four minutes 5.81 seconds.

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* FOLK SOLO DANCES.

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Colour
American

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Colour
American

Performances: 3:30-6 - 8:30

Cinema
ZAHARAN
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(Colour)
"Italian film"

Performances: 12-3 - 5:30-8

Cinema
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Tel: 30126

MUJHE VACHA DO
(Colour)
"Indian film"

Performances: 12-3 - 5:30-8

Cinema
PALESTINE
Tel: 22117

1- END OF A BAD MAN
Indian
2- BANANA JO
American

Performances: 12-3-7

Cinema
RAGHADAN
Tel: 22198

WE ARE THE AMBULANCE
Arabic
Colour

Performances: 12-3-5:30-8

Oil share in UAE earnings declines

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Oil's contribution to Qatar government earnings last year fell to 82 per cent of the national budget from 87 per cent in the previous year. Qatar's finance and oil minister, Sheikh Abdul Aziz bin Khalifa Al Thani, was quoted Tuesday as saying.

Sheikh Abdul Aziz told the Qatar News Agency (QNA) in an interview, however, that oil revenues still made up 94 per cent of the country's exports.

Qatar, with a daily Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries quota of 300,000 barrels per day (b/d), forecast a budget deficit for 1983 of \$1.4 billion.

Last November, Sheikh Abdul Aziz said his country needed to boost its oil production to 425,000 b/d to sustain its development plans and industrial projects.

Meanwhile, the Qatar Fertiliser Company (QAFCO) made a profit of nearly \$33 million in 1983, despite a slump in world urea prices.

Company Chairman Said Al Mishal said the profit was achieved by pursuing a "continuous policy of lowering production costs and improving operating efficiency."

He said all QAFCO plants were running above design levels. At present, he said, QAFCO was in the process of modernising control systems at its older plants.

Qatar's first nitrogenous fertiliser plants began production in 1973 with a design capacity of 900 tons of ammonia and 1,000 tons of urea daily.

In 1983, QAFCO produced 586,000 tons of ammonia and 685,000 tons of urea, exceeding 1982 output by 58,000 and 23,000 tons respectively.

The company last year exported 717,000 tons of urea and 164,000 tons of ammonia to 15 countries.

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — The market closed firm in response to selective demand and at 1500 F.T. index was up 5.2 to 817.7 while the LSE 100 index at 1534 was up 8.6 at 1044.0.

Sentiment was helped by sterling's strength, the view that long-term U.K. interest rates are likely to fall and hopes of higher fourth quarter earnings from ICI due Thursday.

Banks were higher, gaining up to 30p ahead of the reporting season which begins early in March. Gold shares rose as much as \$8 with the higher bullion price, government bonds firmed up to ½ point and North American stocks closed mixed.

Lloyds Bank rose 30p to a high of 589 before softening to 587 and gains among other banks ranged to 18p. Insurances met renewed speculative demand and with Pearl adding 23p to 867 while Cater Allen was 13p up at 518 also on bid speculation. Oils gained narrowly.

STC firmed 16p to 278 after Monday's results. ICI closed 2p up at 604. Racal at 215 and Ferranti at 672 rose 9p and 11p respectively. Lonrho closed 6p up at 146. Pilkington added 10p to 275 and in firmer rubbers, Inch Kenneth rose 82p to 590. In the unlisted securities market, Valin Pollen gained 20p to 195 on being appointed Reuters public relations consultant.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

One sterling	1.4475/85	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.2502/05	Canadian dollars
	2.7075/85	West German marks
	3.0540/55	Dutch guilders
	2.2190/2200	Swiss francs
	55.43/48	Belgian francs
	8.3545/75	French francs
	1673.75/1674.75	Italian lire
	234.25/35	Japanese yen
	8.0000/50	Swedish crowns
	7.6980/7030	Norwegian crowns
	9.8800/8900	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	388.75/389.25	U.S. dollars

THE BETTER HALF By Harris



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(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: FLUTE SOLAR VERIFY BEYOND

Answer: What a podiatrist does for a living—BILLS THE FOOT

Dollar firms, gold prices rise sharply

LONDON (R) — Gold prices rose sharply and the U.S. dollar recouped some of its recent losses as an upsurge in the Iran-Iraq war and U.S. naval movements in the Arabian Sea Tuesday increased fears of an imminent threat to Gulf oil supplies.

Gold peaked at \$390 per ounce, a level not seen since mid-November, on rumours that Iran was about to carry out its oft-repeated threat to close the Strait of Hormuz through which all seaborne Gulf oil must pass.

Tensions were also fuelled when a U.S. naval spokesman in Tokyo confirmed that a naval battle group led by the aircraft carrier Midway is operating not far from the strait.

President Reagan has made a public commitment to keep the strait navigable for the world's oil traffic.

But despite heavy fighting on the Iran-Iraq border and hints of a new Iranian offensive, Bahrain shipping sources reported normal traffic in the Gulf, and gold eased to \$388.25 an ounce at the London morning fix, some \$4 above Monday's level.

The dollar, which weakened steadily in the past two weeks before steadying Monday, firmed on European exchanges, emphasising its role as a refuge currency.

Dealers said its rise was also prompted by renewed Israeli bombing in Lebanon as U.S. marines prepared to leave Beirut.

The dollar traded above 2.71 marks and 2.2225 Swiss francs, its best levels for a week.

Alone among major currencies, sterling outperformed the dollar, briefly reaching its highest point this year in London at \$1.4522 and also recording gains against European units.

As Western Europe's only oil exporter, Britain stands to benefit from any threat to oil supplies.

"The Gulf situation has raised sterling across the board," said one British bank dealer.

Sterling's trade-weighted index against major currencies (1975 base 100) stood at 82.8, again its best overall level this year, after Monday night's close at 82.3.

Apart from the international tension, dealers in London said U.S. economic data later this week were expected to show buoyant recovery, increasing pressure for higher U.S. interest rates.

U.S. markets had a holiday Monday, and some dealers forecast strong dollar gains when U.S. trading opened later Tuesday.

"We're going to see some big moves when the U.S. opens," said one.

Israelis pay highest taxes in the world

TEL AVIV (AP) — A study has found that Israelis pay the highest taxes in the world, Israeli newspapers reported Tuesday.

The daily Haaretz said the centre for the research of social policy in Israel found that Israeli pay taxes by up to 53 per cent of the Gross National Product (GNP), the sum of the nation's earnings, which is now about \$21 billion.

It compared this with 50 per cent taxes paid in Sweden, considered to have one of the highest-taxed populations in the world.

The top income tax bracket in Israel is 66 per cent, levied on individual earnings of more than 275,000 shekels (\$2,100) per month.

But Israelis have to pay heavy taxes even when their incomes are low — a recent national insurance survey showed that many of the Israelis under the official poverty line are paying income tax and everyone in the country has to pay taxes on property, petrol, anything imported, and 15 per cent value added tax on all the rest.

Mr. Haim Ben-Shachar, a professor of economics at Tel Aviv University who headed a tax reform committee several years ago, said Israel had already logged several economic records: It had the second-highest inflation rate in the world — 191 per cent last year — and the highest balance-of-payments deficit — \$5.3 billion for a population of 4.1 million.

"We're really collecting negative gold medals," Mr. Ben-Shachar told Israeli radio.

He added that from his experience, high taxes only lower the government's tax income, "because Israelis are of evading taxation."

Mr. Ben-Shachar said the only way to solve the problem was for the government to cut its budget, thereby reducing its taxation needs.

Enka Holding to sign \$100 m loan agreement

ISTANBUL (R) — Turkish contractor and industrial company Enka Holding B.V. will sign an agreement for a \$100 million syndicated loan on Saturday in Istanbul, company officials said Tuesday.

They said the three-year standby credit, managed by American Express International Banking Corporation, would be used by three companies in the Enka group, mainly in construction and trade financing.

Half of the loan is in the form of letter of guarantee, \$30 million as a letter of credit and \$20 million as working capital financing.

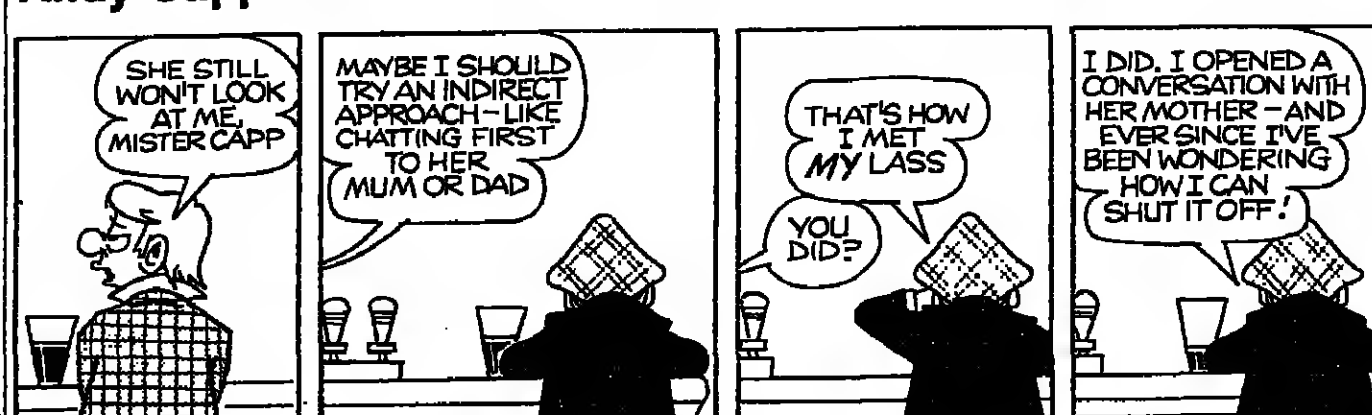
Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



Rising U.S. protectionism 'disquiets' EC

BRUSSELS (R) — The European Community (EC) Tuesday noted with "disquiet" what it called rising protectionist pressures in the United States.

Its foreign ministers, meeting here, said in a statement that measures under consideration in Washington could affect \$4.7 billion worth of community exports to the United States.

The statement was issued shortly after the ministers rejected French-led efforts to open proceedings in the world trade regulating body GATT to limit imports of U.S. cereal substitutes.

Diplomats said ministers argued the community could not warn the U.S. against breaking its free-trade commitments while pursuing protectionist measures of its own.

They said the statement was meant to support President Reagan's anti-protectionist administration in resisting strong pressures in this U.S. election year.

The ministers' statement recognised that the Reagan administration "has taken a firm stand against protectionist pressures" but said the situation remained alarming.

The statement noted that Washington had been asked to take action on imports including steel, wine and machine tools.

The ministers warned U.S. action "could lead to a dangerous increase in trade restrictions and to a rapid erosion of the open multilateral trading system on which world prosperity depended."

They also reminded Washington of the commitment at last year's Williamsburg Western summit to halt protectionism and reverse it by dismantling trade barriers.

The diplomats said ministers from Britain, West Germany and the Netherlands were among others who opposed issuing a tougher statement, fearing it might undermine the administration's attempts to stem protectionism.

They had earlier argued it was untimely to take action on corn gluten, a cheap cereal substitute used for animal feed.

But the ministers agreed that the community's aim remained to stabilise imports of this product once the community had reformed its largely protectionist cereals and dairy subsidies system, the diplomats added.

Demand for OPEC oil predicted to fall

SINGAPORE (Agencies) — Demand for OPEC oil could fall by more than a million barrels a day (b/d) below the group's production ceiling soon but need not threaten OPEC's unity, a senior Western oil official said here Tuesday.

Mr. J.M.H. Van Engelsdoven, a managing director of Royal Dutch Shell with special responsibility for exploration and production, said the market for oil from the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) could fall to between 16.0 million and 16.5 million b/d in March and April.

But demand should recover from June and this year could show the first increase in annual average oil consumption since 1979, he said in an address to an offshore oil conference.

OPEC's 13 members in March fixed a benchmark price of \$29 dollar a barrel and a combined production ceiling of 17.5 million b/d.

Another conference speaker, Mr. Tor Meloe, chief economist for the U.S. oil firm Texaco, said Indonesia and Malaysia faced a fall in oil exports unless they curbed domestic consumption, found new reserves or developed alternative fuels.

He said a continuing decline in oil exports, their main source of foreign exchange, would affect living standards and force radical restructuring of the economies of both countries.

Meanwhile, crude oil production by OPEC could pick up by 1.2 million barrels a day at the end of this year, a former OPEC secretary general told a press conference in Doha, Qatar Tuesday.

Mr. Ali Al-Jaidah, managing director of the Qatar General Petroleum Corporation said he believed the "bad days" for OPEC were over.

U.K. economy grows by 2.4%

LONDON (AP) — Britain's economic output grew 2.4 per cent in 1983, according to provisional figures released by the general statistical office Monday.

The office said output in the final quarter of 1983 was 0.5 per cent higher than in 1982.

It said final figures and estimates of total national spending and income will be released later. It has forecast a 3 per cent growth rate for 1984.

Saudis urged to consider car assembly projects

RIYADH (OPECNA) — Saudi businessmen have been urged by Industry and Electricity Minister Abdul Aziz Al Zamel to examine the possibility of setting up car assembly plants in the kingdom.

Mr. Al Zamel said in view of the worldwide growth of the car industry, and the continuous increase in the country's car imports, such a project now "appeared viable", especially as the established Saudi car importers already had agents' marketing channels and workshops.

Referring to the government's policy to attract Saudis to the industrial sector, he said 300 nationals were already working in the field, with an additional 1,000 under training. The minister added there was a plan to split major industrial complexes and redistribute them according to the availability of raw materials and manpower.

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1984

YOUR DAILY Horoscope from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: This is one of those days when you need to use a considerable amount of self-control to avoid getting involved in arguments. Proceed with caution.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Don't argue over some account with a business person; quietly go over figures and make sure you didn't make a mistake.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) It is best that you compromise with another over some long-time matter that is important to both of you.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) You may not like what a fellow worker is doing; forget about it for now, and save yourself a lot of trouble.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) You may feel that your talents should be appreciated instead of criticised. Take care you do not spend too much on pleasure and then later regret it.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Do nothing erratic that family would not approve of. Not a good time to invite guests into your home. Read, watch TV or listen to the radio.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Talk over with allies how to get ahead. Be careful on the highway. Make sure your car is in good running order.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Your business affairs worry you some, but don't make any radical changes. Clear out the bugs in present set up. Listen to experts.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Study how to get rid of your frustrations and then do so, but be tactful. Don't permit a friend to upset you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Be careful not to argue with one who is disturbed and wants to take frustrations out on you. Happiness is yours.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Clarify what it is you most want. One who has problems expects your aid, but be tactful in what you do. Don't get caught in a trap.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Use care in handling vocational or political matters. Do not jeopardize your good name. Do not ask any favors.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) You are impelled to make changes and get into new projects; study them but don't take any action. Take yourself more seriously.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he or she will be someone who has the ability to get right at the core of any matter, and should have a good education, since the mind is brilliant here. Teach not to criticise others so much, even if done in a humorous way.

"The Stars impel; they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!

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THE Daily Crossword By Peter G. Snow

ACROSS

1 Recedes

5 Ellen or Nancy

9 Disgrace

14 Bucket

15 Roof

16 Subject

17 Made a putt

18 First

19 Angry

20 Midwest

21 American

23 Lease

24 Ruby or Sandra

25 Climbing aid

29 Autocrat

31 Poetic

34 Pallidrome

35 George

36 Herman

37 Eastern bird?

40 Cigar and victim

41 Giva off

42 Senior

43 Meadow

44 Songbird

45 Except

46 Kind of sauce

47 Social insect

48 Southern holy man?

57 In the least

58 Carniel

59 Retain

60 Called

61 Nollon

62 Congressman from NY

63 Pung and luge

64 Cozy abode

65 Pintail duck

DOWN

1 Heroic tale

2 Umpire's call

3 Pedal

4 Certain European

5 Casino employee

6 Morocco capital

7 Tied

8 Tuesday

9 Black eye

10 Multitude

11 Jai

12 "I — man with..."

13 Elysium

21 Vernish ingredient

22 Hells Canyon

25 Tag

26 Decrease

27 Fraternity letter

28 Appointment

29 Commune on the Po

30 Opposite of dele

31 Wear away

32 Parts

33 Water gitches

35 Where all roads lead

36 1/4 pint

38 Mrs. Streep

39 Hires

44 Large amount

45 Oust

46 Worked on shoes

47 Peruvian mountains

48 Siestas

49 Lat. abbr.

50 Salary

51 The old sod

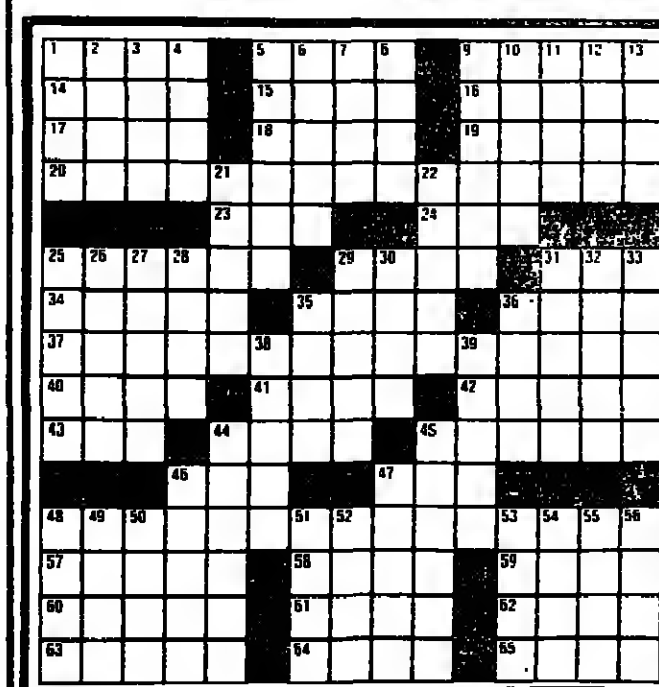
52 Right-hand man

53 Inquires

54 List part

55 Call

56 Elite or pica



Nicaragua reports rebel attacks

MANAGUA (Agencies) — Nicaraguan troops have killed 30 anti-government rebels in heavy fighting near the northern gold mining centre of Shima, Defence Minister Humberto Ortega said Tuesday.

He said the rightist guerrillas, who had been regrouping in the northern Tlaya Norte province after entering from Honduras, had received supplies from Honduras-based helicopters.

He gave no figures of Sandinist army casualties. Heavy fighting was expected to continue in the region in the next few days, he added.

Mr. Ortega said the fighting had taken place in the region inhabited by the Miskito Indians, Nicaragua's largest minority.

A Miskito rebel group known as Misura has taken arms against the leftist Managua government, saying the Sandinistas have tried to assimilate the Miskitos and have carried out forced evacuation in border areas.

Rebels set 6 conditions

Meanwhile in San Jose, Costa Rica, a Nicaraguan rebel group said it will support elections pla-

ned for Nicaragua in 1985 if the Sandinista government accepts six conditions, including participation by rebel leaders, restoration of civil liberties and presence of foreign observers.

Alfonso Robelo, one of five directors of the Revolutionary Democratic Alliance, said his group has no plans to disrupt the voting if the conditions are not met, but did not rule out the possibility.

The leftist Nicaraguan government is to announce an election date and other details Tuesday. The elections will be the first since the Sandinista National Liberation Front overthrew President Anastasio Somoza in July 1979.

Tuesday is the 50th anniversary of the death of Augusto Cesar Sandino, for whom the Sandinistas are named. Sandino led a revolt against a U.S. Marine occupation of Nicaragua in the 1920s and 1930s.

Mr. Robelo, speaking at a news conference here, said the con-

ditions are:

— Participation of all representative forces in the country, including their directors. The Sandinistas have said dissident leaders such as Mr. Robelo will not be able to participate or to return to Nicaragua under a partial amnesty for rebels proclaimed in 1983.

— An end to the domination of government functions by the Sandinistas, who function as the ruling political party.

— Restoration of basic freedoms, suspended by the state of emergency in effect since March 1982.

— Allowing Latin American observers to be present for the elections.

— Clear electoral rules with formal public assurances that the Sandinistas will honour election results even if they lose.

— Elimination of what the alliance called "institutionalised repression" and removal of foreign military advisers.

Mr. Robelo, a member of the five-person junta that governed Nicaragua immediately after the Sandinistas took over, became disillusioned with the leftist turn

taken by the government.

He and others in the alliance, known by its Spanish initials ARDE, claim the original goals of the revolution were sold out to Cuban and Soviet domination.

ARDE is one of two major rebel groups. The other is the Honduras-based Nicaraguan Democratic Forces, which is stronger militarily and gets aid from the U.S. administration. It includes many former members of Mr. Somoza's National Guard.

Mr. Robelo described the six points as "the basic conditions that will satisfy ARDE and will stop... the military activities."

He said the conditions were sent by telex to Sandinista leaders in Managua. Asked if he expected a response, Mr. Robelo replied: "There is hope on our part."

He also said the Honduras-based rebels were advised of the offer but it was not a joint presentation.

In Managua the leading Nicaraguan opposition group threatened to boycott the elections unless the ruling Sandinista National Liberation Front agrees to lift a state of emergency in effect since 1982.

Salvadoran helicopter crash was accident, military says

SAN SALVADOR (R) — A Salvadoran military official said this week's crash of two army helicopters in a battle with leftist guerrillas was the worst aviation "accident" in the country's history.

Two U.S.-made Bell UH-1H helicopters crashed on Sunday in northern El Salvador killing all 24 government troops and four pilots aboard. Guerrillas said they shot the aircraft down.

But a spokesman for the army chief of staff said the helicopters crashed after one veered to avoid guerrilla gunfire and collided with another.

"It definitely was the worst accident in national aviation history," he said Monday.

The official, who declined to be named, said some guerrilla machine-gun bullets had pierced the first helicopter, but insisted that it was the collision which destroyed the aircraft.

Another military official, Col-

onel Ramon Morales Ruiz, said earlier at the crash site that a rocket-propelled grenade fired by guerrillas struck the first helicopter.

The impact forced it to spin out of control into the other craft, he said.

But the army staff spokesman said this version was totally inaccurate.

The guerrillas' Radio Venceremos said in a broadcast that the downing of the helicopters was a warning "to the Yankee invader and demonstrates once more the failing of Yankee tactics in El Salvador."

Col. Ruiz told reporters that the crashes were a blow to the army's ability to transport troops in their continuing war against the rebels of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN).

"We don't have the necessary helicopters to fight this war as it is," he said.

The army has 21 of the U.S.-



supplied helicopters but only eight were in service Monday, military officials said.

American military officials said

here Monday they expected the

United States to send as many as

10 more helicopters in the next

several months.

Belgrade continues trial of 2 Armenian commandos

BELGRADE (R) — The trial resumed Monday after a three-week adjournment of two Armenians charged with killing a Turkish diplomat in Yugoslavia.

Haroutoun Levonian, 23, and Raffi Elbakian, 21, are accused of killing Ambassador Galip Balkar in an ambush in central Belgrade last March and fatally wounding a Yugoslav student.

Mr. Levonian, who was shot and wounded by a policeman in the attack, and Mr. Elbakian, admitted killing the envoy and wounding his driver, but deny shooting the student.

A statement by the Paris-based "Committee for the Defence of

Prisoner-Fighters for the Armenian Cause," teleaxed to news agencies Sunday night, said the two men had been blamed for the shooting of the student to cover up a police blunder.

It said there was evidence that the bullet which killed the student was of a different calibre from those used by the two Armenians.

The trial, which began on Dec. 6 and was suspended over the Winter Olympic Games period, is being held in the Library of a Belgrade prison hospital because of Mr. Levonian's condition. It is expected to end some time next month.

Passengers still stranded after Karachi Airport fire

KARACHI (R) — More than 1,200 passengers were still waiting for flights at Karachi Airport Tuesday after a fire gutted the international departure area Monday, officials said.

The airport began to resume operations Monday night but the first international flights did not take off until several hours later, they said.

Most of the stranded passengers were Pakistanis booked on flights to the Gulf.

Meanwhile, fire engines were still wetting down smouldering debris from the blaze, the third major fire at the airport since 1977.

Officials said the fire was ignited by a stray spark from welding work on a baggage conveyor. The blaze quickly spread over the plastic-covered seats and through souvenir shops in the departure lounge.

Twelve people were injured in the fire and local newspapers estimated the damage at 200 to 300 million rupees (\$14.8 to 22.2 mil-

lion). Over 100 water tankers were mobilised Monday to haul water from over 16 kilometres away to the airport.

Insurers told Reuters Tuesday they had frequently expressed concern about the airport's lack of water supply.

A short circuit in the electrical wiring destroyed the international departure lounge in 1977 and a DC-10 jet later burnt on a runway causing \$35 million worth of damage, they said.

A newly-built international arrivals terminal collapsed in 1982.

Karachi, Pakistan's largest city, is a frequently-used stop-over for flights between Europe and the Far East. The departure lounge is usually crowded during the night, when most long-distance flights land and take off, but was almost empty at 1130 (0630 GMT) Monday when the fire started.

Most of the waiting passengers had to pass the night in usually cold weather, without shelter, officials said.

French government opens talks with truck drivers

PARIS (R) — French truckdrivers stepped up their protests in the Paris region Tuesday as the government began talks aimed at ending their paralysing blockade of main roads.

Transport Minister Charles Fiterman led the government side in a meeting with a truckers' delegation, which included representatives of independent owner-drivers who belong to neither of the two main transport federations.

Political sources said the government was likely to make some concessions in order to bolster the authority of the federation leaders, whose appeals for an end to the blockade have been widely ignored.

Police said truckers Tuesday failed in an attempt to block access to France's main wholesale fruit and vegetable market at Rungis, south of Paris.

But the drivers succeeded in halting traffic on part of the main ring road around the capital. And France's main north-south motorway remained blocked at Villeneuve in the Rhone Valley.

Police said blockades were aff-

ecting traffic at 63 places with the worst holdups in the Alps on roads leading to Italy and Switzerland.

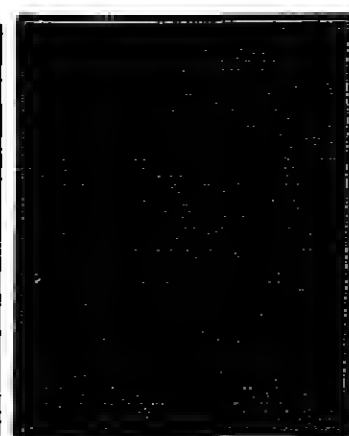
Political sources said the government's chances of bringing the dispute to a swift end received a sharp setback with news from Italy Monday that Italian customs officers were resuming a work-to-rule which sparked the conflict last week.

A speedup in the slow formalities at the Italian border is one of the French truckdrivers' main grievances. They also want an easing of government regulations on drivers' hours and of value added tax payments.

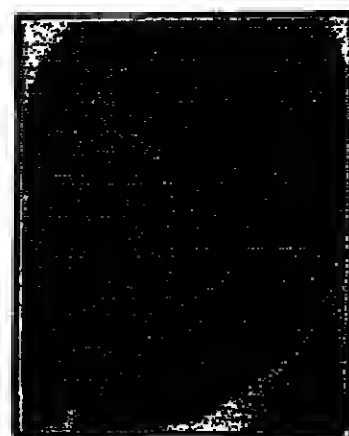
Mr. Fiterman, a Communist, has been accused by the drivers of favouring rail transport over the road haulage industry.

Drivers manning the blockades on the Alpine roads said they would not end their action unless Tuesday's talks produced a written agreement meeting their demands.

Since Tuesday's talks were set the government has suspended attempts to use troops and riot police to remove the blockades by force.



Walter Mondale



John Glenn



George McGovern

Mondale scores victory in Iowa

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) — Democrats holding small meetings throughout this midwestern farm state Monday night chose former Vice-President Walter Mondale among the eight candidates seeking the party's nomination for president of the United States.

The caucuses, as the meetings are called, were widely viewed as an important sign of who will face President Ronald Reagan in the November presidential elections.

With 54 per cent of the 2,495 precinct caucuses reporting, Mondale had 21,367 votes or 45 per cent of the total. "A great victory," Mondale said. "This is the beginning of the end of the Reagan administration."

Senator Gary Hart of Colorado was running a far-back second. Senator John Glenn of Ohio looked like the night's big loser. He was polling only six per cent of the vote, in fifth place.

"I think I'm going to be the nominee, and I think this win here in Iowa strengthens me considerably," Mr. Mondale told reporters partway through the race.

"It now appears we have won a great victory, perhaps a spectacular victory," he said. "This is the beginning of the end of the Reagan Administration."

The major television networks all said their projections showed Mr. Mondale an easy victor in the leadoff contest of the year-old Democratic presidential race.

The non-Mondale vote was div-

ided eight ways, among seven rival candidates and the voters who preferred to remain uncommitted. Those numbers: Gary Hart 6,921, or 15 per cent. Former Sen. George McGovern of South Dakota 5,928, 12 per cent. Sen. Alan Cranston of California 4,407, 9 per cent. Uncommitted 3,346, 7 per cent. John Glenn, 2,606, 6 per cent. Former Gov. Robin Askew of Florida, 1,484, 3 per cent. The Rev. Jesse Jackson 1,358, 3 per cent. Sen. Ernest Hollings of South Carolina 118.

Mr. McGovern and Mr. Askew also campaigned extensively here. Mr. Hollings and Rev. Jackson spent only a few hours campaigning in the state.

Although he has no formal opposition for the Republican Party's renomination, Mr. Reagan flew in for a brief visit designed to take some of the impact from the Democratic caucuses and fire up Republican partisans attending their own caucuses Monday night.

For the Democrats, Iowa marked the first chance for rank-and-file voters to express their preference for a candidate. They would do so with public declarations in the meetings scheduled at schools, homes and fire stations.

Those attending caucuses break into groups according to the candidate they back. The caucus leader takes a count and announces the number of people supporting each candidate.

Other U.S. states select can-

didates by secret ballot in primary nominating conventions, the first of which is scheduled in New Hampshire next week.

The precinct caucuses are only the first step in a process that moves through county and congressional district conventions and ends at Republican and Democratic state conventions in June. Voters at the precinct level were choosing delegates to the 99 county conventions.

A candidate must receive at least 15 per cent of the vote to receive any delegates. Iowa will send 58 delegates to the Democratic National Convention next July in San Francisco and 37 to the Republican Convention in August in Dallas.

Iowa has a voting strength of only about 2 per cent at the National Democratic Convention, but political commentators were eager to analyse the results as an indication of the mood of voters in middle America.

The caucus-goers also were to vote on resolutions on issues they wanted included in party platforms.

An Iowa poll published Monday in the Des Moines Register said Mr. Reagan's approval rating had dropped to 41 per cent, then lowest in the state since he took office. The poll said Mr. Mondale was leading Mr. Reagan 53 per cent to 39 per cent in the state, while Mr. Glenn was ahead of the president, 50 per cent to 39 per cent.

Poland releases jailed U.N. employee

WARSAW (R) — United Nations Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar has helped secure the release of a Polish U.N. employee who was jailed nearly four years ago for spying for a NATO intelligence service.

Alicja Wesolowska, 39, was freed Monday after the secretary-general raised her case with Poland's prime minister and Communist party leader, Wojciech Jaruzelski, well-informed sources said.

Ms. Wesolowska had served almost four years of a seven-year prison term. She was found guilty of spying in March 1980 by a military tribunal to which U.N. observers were denied access.

"I'm happy to be with my parents at last," Ms. Wesolowska told reporters after her release. "I

think they have suffered more than I have."

She described herself as in good spirits but said she was not sure if she would return to a position in the United Nations. Before her arrest in Warsaw in August 1979, she had been due to take up a job with the U.N. Development Programme (UNDP) in Mongolia.

Mr. Perez de Cuellar, who leaves Poland Tuesday for Czechoslovakia after a four-day visit, told reporters before news of Ms. Wesolowska's release emerged that he had been encouraged by his talks with Mr. Jaruzelski on human rights issues.

Referring to the cases of 11 leading opposition figures who are awaiting trial on charges of plotting to overthrow the Polish state, he said:

"We have discussed these problems, which were, I must tell you, raised by the Polish authorities. What we have heard is very encouraging on all fronts."

The 11 men include Andrzej Gwiazda, former deputy leader of the banned Solidarity Trade Union, Jan Rulawski, Zbigniew Romaszewski and two of Poland's best-known dissident intellectuals — Jacek Kuron and Adam Michalik.

Informed sources said Mr. Perez de Cuellar had pressed the Polish government to release Ms. Wesolowska as a goodwill gesture to accompany his trip.

The U.N. employee, who celebrates her 40th birthday in nine days, said her jailers had told her that she was being released as an official act of clemency.

Students demonstrate against Bangladeshi military rule

DHAKA (R) — Students shouted angry slogans against military rule in Bangladesh at a ceremony honouring national heroes here Tuesday and at least 10 people were hurt in clashes between rival demonstrators.

President Hussain Mohammad Ershad, escorted by heavily armed troops and police, left the city's Martyrs' Monument quickly after laying the first of thousands of wreaths and bouquets.

The monument is built on the spot where four student nationalists were killed by police bullets in 1952 as they demonstrated to support demands that Bangla-

be made a state language when the country was still part of Pakistan.

The students Tuesday shouted slogans against military rule and condemning what his opponents consider to be the inadequate steps Gen. Ershad has taken to bring democracy back to Bangladesh.

"Go back to the barracks. Give us our freedom," they yelled. Hundreds of thousands of Bangladeshis filed barefoot past the monument and the graves of the students to mark Ekushey (Martyrs' Day), an emotional anniversary which symbolises Bangladeshi nationalism.

Argentine admiral detained

BUENOS AIRES (R) — An Argentine admiral who returned from self-imposed exile in South Africa to face serious human rights charges was Tuesday under arrest pending his appearance before civilian and military courts.

Admiral Ruben Chamorro was arrested at Buenos Aires International Airport on Sunday night as he stepped off a plane from Johannesburg.

A police statement said he was being detained on the orders of Federal Judge Jose Dibur, who is investigating the Argentine Anti-Communist Alliance (triple A) rightist death squads, which killed hundreds of people in the 1970s.

Pretoria agrees to sign accord with Maputo

JOHANNESBURG (R) — South Africa has for the second time in a week agreed to establish a security accord with a politically-opposed black neighbouring state.

Foreign Minister Pik Botha Monday night led a delegation back from high-level talks in the Mozambique capital of Maputo where a joint announcement said the two countries planned to formalise a security agreement intended to help bring peace to southern Africa.

Accompanied on the one-day trip by two other senior cabinet ministers, Mr. Botha met Mozambique President Samora Machel and leading officials led by Economic Affairs Minister Major-General Jacinto Soares Veloso.

A joint statement said both sides agreed the region had been plagued by conflict for far too long and this had "retarded progress in

In clashes between rival groups, mostly of students, at least 10 people were injured as they attacked each other with sticks and hurled bricks and firecrackers.

Hussain Mohammad Ershad

Prince Charles flies to Brunei

LONDON (R) — Prince Charles, heir to the British throne, left Tuesday to attend independence celebrations in Brunei. The oil-producing sultanate, a tiny enclave in northern Borneo, gained independence on Dec. 31 last year after 95 years as a British protectorate. The event will be formally celebrated on Thursday. Princess Diana did not accompany the 35-year-old prince, but his party did include his polo manager. His host, Sultan Sir Muda Hassanal Bolkiah, 36, is also a keen player.

Prince Andrew has a new girlfriend

LONDON (R) — Queen Elizabeth's son Prince Andrew, whose romance with American actress Koo Stark hit the headlines until it foundered last year, has a new girlfriend, the Daily Express reported Tuesday. The newspaper named blonde model Katie Rabbett, 23, the daughter of a gynaecologist, as the woman helping him to get over his attachment to the one-time soft porn actress. It said the model gave a 24th birthday party for the prince, third in line to the British throne, at the family home in London last Sunday and that she had the approval of the Queen. The Daily Express said: "Friends say Prince Andrew just can't see enough of Katie. She is the first really nice ordinary girl the prince has been out with."

Veteran Russian writer dies at 78

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet writer Mikhail Sholokhov, whose later years were clouded by accusations of plagiarism over his novel And Quiet Flows the Don, has died aged 78, a spokeswoman for the Writers' Union said Tuesday. She said the author died Monday night at his home in the village of Vesenskaya in the southern Russian region of Rostov but refused to give details of the cause of death. Mr. Sholokhov, a staunch supporter of the Soviet system from the 1920's through Stalinism to the present day, was upheld by the Kremlin establishment as the country's leading writer and showered with seven Orders of Lenin.

Four widows defeat army

MANILA (R) — The Philippines army has admitted defeat and asked the law courts to make a judgment on which of four widows should inherit a dead officer's estate. After Captain Abuhajim Abu, a Muslim constabulary officer, was killed fighting rebels on Mindanao Island three years ago his four legal widows each claimed to be sole heir to about 6,000 pesos (\$425) in pension and death benefit payments. Chief of Staff General Fabian Ver Monday asked a Manila court to decide between the conflicting claims by Zaida, Aurora, Norma and Virginia. The armed forces, he said, had "exerted all efforts to determine who will be entitled to the benefits but to no avail."

Britain's oldest person dies

BOURNEMOUTH, England (R) — A funeral service was held in this south coast resort town Monday for a man who had claimed that at 112 he was the oldest person in Britain. The man, Harris Shoerats, a retired leather craftsman of Russian origin, died in a Bournemouth nursing home on Saturday. He had attributed his long life to strict vegetarianism, not drinking alcohol, and clean living. He left a son aged 85 who lives in Scotland.

Reagan meets woman he saved

DES MOINES, Iowa (R) — President Reagan Monday night had a surprise reunion with a Des Moines woman he saved from a robber half a century ago. At a political rally here he met Mrs. Melba King for the first time since the autumn of 1933 when he lured a .45 calibre revolver at a man trying to rob her and told him to get on his way. Mr. Reagan was working as a sport announcer for a local radio station at the time. "Melba, there is something I have to tell you," Mr. Reagan said Monday night. "The gun was empty... if he hadn't run when I told him to, I would have had to throw it at him."

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
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WATCH THOSE SPOTS

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ 109
♥ J109
♦ Q952
♣ A442

WEST EAST
♠ 7653 ♠ K842
♥ Q8532 ♥ 764
♦ 7 ♦ K643
♣ 975 ♣ 86

SOUTH
♠ A Q J
♥ A K
♦ A J 108
♣ K J 103

The bidding:

Snub West North East
2 NT Pass 6 NT Pass
Pass Pass

Opening lead: Three of ♣.

Ponr technique is not always punished at rubber bridge. At duplicate, however, failure to make an overtrick can be very costly.

South had a classic two no trump opening bid. There are those who might feel that North is a point or two shy for a raise to six no trump, but he gave full weight in the "body" given his hand by the 10's and 9's.

A rubber bridge player could easily be satisfied with making his contract. He would win the heart, cross to

dummy with a club and run the queen of diamonds. When that worked, he would repeat the finesse, and would not be disturbed when West showed he would get back to dummy with a club, repeat the finesse in diamonds, and give up a trick to the king of spades to make his small slam.

The good duplicate player would see that he has a chance for 13 tricks. He would win the king of hearts, cash the king of clubs and enter dummy by overtaking the jack of clubs with the queen. When both defenders follow to that trick, declarer should realize that he has a third entry in the club suit.

Next, the apots in diamonds are important. Declarer would lead the nine of diamonds and underplay the eight from his hand. When the finesse succeeds, he is still in dummy to lead the queen of diamonds. East can duck, but declarer repeats the finesse and picks up the diamonds.

Now he leads the ten of clubs to the ace and takes the spade finesse. He can still get back to the table by overtaking the three of clubs with the four to repeat the spade finesse and make all 13 tricks for an overtrick.